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WE'RE WITH YOU ALWAYS, MA'AM

For Mama...the King and his siblings, right, mount a vigil at the Queen's coffin last night

Leo McKinstry and Richard Palmer

AS THE climax to an extraordinary period of mourning for Her Majesty approaches, her children stood in silent tribute to their beloved mother last night.

With heads bowed as scores of members of the public filed past to pay their respects to the Queen, her son King Charles and his siblings Anne, Andrew and Edward mounted one last emotional vigil around her coffin.

People who had waited seven or eight hours in the queue to see the sovereign lying in state in Westminster Hall were also greeted by the sight of the senior Royals.

The King looked as if he was bearing a heavy burden as he walked down the hall steps to begin the 15-minute vigil.

He was followed by the Princess Royal and the Earl of Wessex with the Duke of York just behind, also in military uniform.

Charles and his solemn siblings stood in silent contemplation as they guarded the catafalque alongside four flickering candles.

The King, in full Royal Navy ceremonial dress, appeared to rock gently back and forth on his heels.

While his sister and trusted confidante Anne, wearing the uniform of the Blues and Royals, was motionless – despite a man wav-

Pictures: YUI MOK/PA AND DOMINIC LIPINSKI/PA

United in sorrow for their beloved mother

ing at her. Prince Edward, on the opposite side to his sister and like his siblings facing away from their mother's coffin, was stock-still too, dressed in Blues Uniform with the rank of Honorary Royal Colonel of the Royal Wessex Yeomanry.

Their duty finally done, the four left Westminster Hall to a round of applause from the passing public mourners.

Other members of the Royal Family, including the Queen Consort, Vice-Admiral Sir Tim Laurence and the Countess of Wessex looked on.

The Royal party also included Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie; the Lady Louise Mountbatten-Windsor and James, Viscount Severn; Peter Phillips; Zara and Mike Tindall; the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester; the Duke of Kent; Prince and Princess Michael of Kent, Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy.

Today the Queen's grandchildren too will participate in a vigil at her coffin, with the Duke of Sussex joining his brother the Prince of Wales in wearing uniform.

Sources said that the decision to let Harry don military dress was made by the King.

After Her Majesty's children left last night, the queuing mourners continued their respectful journey past her coffin, many with tears in their eyes.

There are just two days left for the late Queen to lie in state. Although almost half a million people are expected to pass by her flag-draped casket, many of those still in line last night were warned to expect a 24-hour wait. It will not deter them, such is the love for our Queen.

Her funeral on Monday in its scale, solemnity and splendour promises to be the most memorable Royal event in British history. Jubilees and coronations will pale in comparison to the epic ceremony, reflecting the depth of devotion to Elizabeth II.

Since Her Majesty's death last week, there has been a remarkable cavalcade of ritual and remembrance, acting as a channel for our grief at her loss, our veneration for her service and our hopes for the new monarch.

Yet the reservoir of sacrament and spectacle has not run dry. Even now, the rites for our late sovereign still retain the capacity to tug at our heart strings.

Yesterday evening was such an event with the Queen's four children mounting their poignant vigil.

A stirring, poignant scene made all the more moving by their stillness, all resplendent in their uniforms but united in sorrow.

On this evocative occasion, only the sternest of puritans would have denied the right of Prince Andrew, currently embroiled in scandal, to wear military dress.

After all, of the quartet he saw the toughest action, having served as a naval helicopter pilot in the Falklands War.

The siblings were well supported from the sidelines – Camilla, Sophie and Sir Tim Laurence watching on. Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie were there to support their

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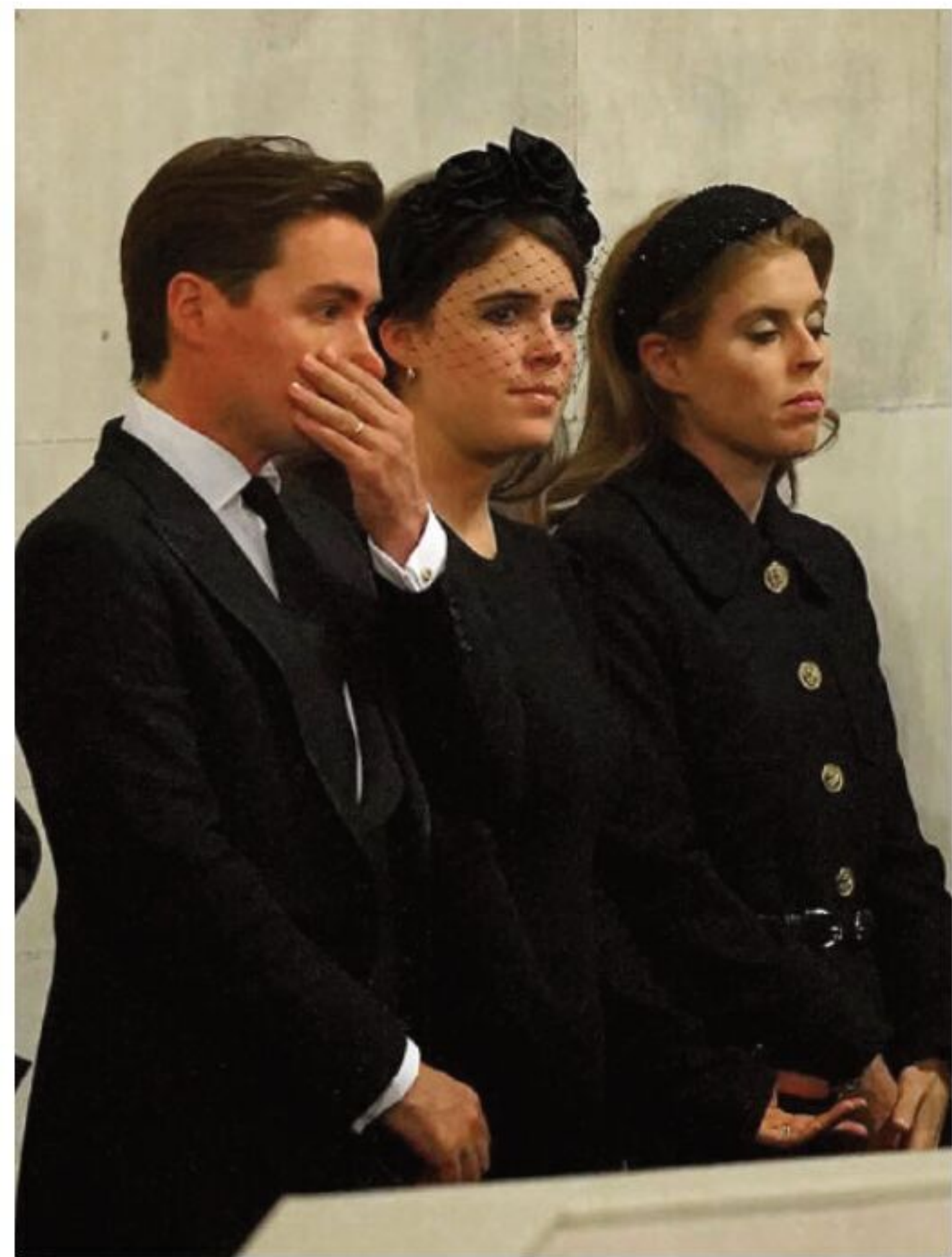
Royals share solemn

Support...the family look on. Below, Edward, Sophie and family, and Eugenie, centre, with Beatrice and husband Edoardo

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father. The mood of the whole family was captured perfectly in a statement issued yesterday afternoon by the Earl of Wessex, whose wife Sophie was particularly close to the Queen.

He said: "We have been overwhelmed by the tide of emotion that has engulfed us.

"The Queen's passing has left an unimaginable void in all our lives."

But Prince Edward also expressed his gratitude to so many members of the public who "have gone out of their way to express their own love, admiration and respect to such a very special and unique person who was always there for us."

He concluded by urging that "may her memory be long cherished" as her baton of service is passed to his elder brother, King Charles III.

The quartet had carried out the same ritual on Monday night when the Queen lay at rest in St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh.

But yesterday evening the vigil had an extra dimension of grandeur, both because of the historic national setting of Westminster Hall and owing to the imminence of the State Funeral.

Such a tradition, known as the Vigil of the Princes, has been performed twice before in this Hall:

In 2002 for the Queen Mother and in 1936 for George V, involving the errant new King Edward VIII and his three siblings – the Dukes of York, Gloucester and Kent.

That latter vigil took place long after midnight when the Hall was closed to the public, so there were few witnesses. Nor, in contrast to yesterday's ceremony, were any cameras allowed so the only record was a painting by Frank Beresford who later became a renowned war artist for the RAF and for the US Air Force.

The work took him 37 hours, but was so impressive that the widowed Queen Mary bought it and gave it to the new King.

The sense of time running out before the Queen's Monday funeral gave a further impetus to the phenomenal queues that extended from Westminster Hall over the Thames and all the way along its south bank to Bermondsey.

At one stage yesterday, the lines had to be temporarily closed and once reopened, they involved waits of up to 24 hours.

The queue's length, which far exceeds all expectations, has been another indicator of the public's determination to honour Her Majesty, regardless of the inconvenience or hardship caused.

As mourning mum Kate Bailey, who took along her seven-month old baby, put it: "The Queen did so much for us, didn't she? So this is the least we could do."

Indeed, the virtues required to cope with the miles-long queues mirror those exhibited by Her Majesty herself: stoicism, patience self-sacrifice and tolerance.

That explains why the line has become part of the fabric of national homage; a kind of unofficial, unfolding ceremony in itself.

The glittering pomp might be absent in this river of humanity, but among the participants there is the same reverence for the late sovereign that inspires the military, political

vigil with the nation

Pictures: DANIEL LEAL/AFP, DOMINIC LIPINSKI/PA, KAI PFAFFENBACH/REUTERS, HANNAH MCKAY/REUTERS

Honour guard... King Charles leads siblings Anne, Andrew and Edward in their tribute

and ecclesiastical personnel to do their best. Other uplifting qualities can be found that show Britain at its best.

Like the camaraderie and humour in the crowd, highlighted in the adoption of the nickname "the Elizabeth Line" for the queue, after the official title of the Crossrail route through central London opened by the Queen in May – one of the last public duties that she performed.

Equally evident is the British sense of fair play, without which queuing can never work.

The death of the Queen has been a great leveller. One of yesterday's many arresting images was the sight of David Beckham, global football legend, quietly waiting his turn for hours so, in his words, he could "celebrate what Her Majesty has done for us."

When he finally reached Westminster Hall he was moved to tears, like so many others who have been overwhelmed by the hushed tranquility of the space – mixed with numbing sadness, and the feeling that history ws being made.

For King Charles, the vigil came towards the end of another exhausting day, after an earlier highly successful trip, accompanied by the Queen Consort, to Wales where he again displayed his ability to connect with the public.

It is a land he of course knows well, having formerly been the Prince of Wales since 1958 – and he received a warm reception at every venue he and Camilla visited including Cardiff Castle and Llandaff Cathedral, where he took part in a multi-faith service.

At one point a miserable, miniscule group of anti-monarchists mounted a protest but all they achieved was to emphasize the irrelevance of their cause.

In contrast to their hostility, the King was open and generous. During his well-received address in Cardiff to the national assembly, now called the Senedd, he spoke partly in Welsh and was full of praise for Wales as he emphasized his mother's love for the nation.

He declared: "I know she took immense pride in your great achievements. I am resolved to honour that same example in the spirit of the words I always try to live my own life: Ich dien – I serve."

Through his actions yesterday, both in Westminster Hall and in Wales, Charles again reinforced not only his suitability for the throne but also the unity of his Kingdom, mirrored by the touching togetherness in his own family.

Dispensation...Andrew wears his uniform

THE WAY TO WINDSOR...HER MAJESTY'S FINAL JOURNEY

BUCKINGHAM Palace has released details of the Queen's journey from Westminster Abbey to her final resting place at Windsor.

The hearse will leave Wellington Arch, travelling down Apsley Way and into South Carriage Drive, alongside Hyde Park. It then turns down Queens Gate from Knightsbridge, before making its way down the Cromwell Road and on to Talgarth Road, via the Hammersmith flyover in west London.

Well-wishers will be able to see the vehicle make its way down the A4 Great West Road, before joining the A30 Great South West Road.

It will then travel west along the A30 London Road, under the Chiswick flyover, before joining Staines Road and the A308 Windsor Road.

After entering Windsor, the hearse will travel along Albert Road, before entering Windsor Castle at Shaw Farm Gate.

ANALYSIS

RICHARD PALMER
Royal Correspondent

A VIGIL by the Queen's grandchildren is a neat solution to a controversy that had threatened to cast a shadow over the build-up to the late monarch's funeral.

In deciding that non-working members of the Royal Family should be banned from wearing their military uniform, the King was only following normal practice.

But when he subsequently gave his disgraced brother Prince Andrew – a veteran of the 1982 Falklands War – special permission to wear uniform for a vigil by the Queen's children at her coffin last night, he also left his son Prince Harry exposed.

The decision to hold another vigil involving the Queen's eight grandchildren this evening offers the opportunity for Harry – who served two tours of duty as an Army officer in Afghanistan – to also wear uniform for a few moments and have his military record honoured.

It is an olive branch from the King towards his fractious son, although there is no suggestion that Harry was complaining about any of it on this occasion.

He and the rest of the family have tried to put their differences aside for now to ensure that the focus remains on honouring his late grandmother.

Allowing both of the Royal Family's most recent war veterans a brief exemption at one event each, from the normal rule that only members of the family with military patronages wear uniform, should do exactly that.

King intervenes so Harry can wear his uniform

AN intervention by the King will mean Prince Harry can wear his military uniform when he and William unite for a solemn vigil.

The brothers will stand at the head and foot of Her Majesty's coffin as they partake in a special act of remembrance tonight.

All eight of the monarch's grandchildren will attend – with Princess Beatrice, 34, and Princess Eugenie, 32, Zara Tindall, 41, Peter Phillips, 44, Lady Louise, 18, and James, Viscount Severn, 14, also present.

The relatives will stand in quiet contemplation around their grandmother for 15 minutes.

Despite Harry no longer being a working royal, it was confirmed yesterday that his father Charles, 73, had requested both his sons wear their military outfits.

This will spare Harry having to wear a plain morning suit, like his uncle Prince Andrew, once again.

Both parties saw the gesture by Charles as an act of "potential reconciliation" between the King and his son, who is now based in the US, royal sources confirmed.

And they stated that the King intervened as "it was the Queen's long-held wish" in the planning of her funeral, that William and Harry would be dressed in their military uniforms.

A source close to the Duke's camp said he was "honoured and delighted", while a royal source said he "will wear his uniform as a mark of respect for his beloved grandmother but also the Queen and country he served".

They added: "All the family believe this is the just and right decision, of course."

The Duke of Sussex wore his striking Blues and Royals military uniform at his 2018 wedding to Meghan Markle. The simple single-breasted uniform is made of blue doeskin and has a white buckskin belt with sword slings.

'The right decision'... Harry in his Blues and Royals uniform

Prince Harry has so far been unable to wear military uniform since the Queen's death because he quit royal life in 2020 and was stripped of his military patronages. On Tuesday, Harry, 38 – who served in the Army for a decade and completed two tours of Afghanistan – confirmed he would be wearing a morning suit in public.

But he asked that the "focus remain on the life and legacy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II".

By **Hanna Geissler** In Windsor

THE Earl of Wessex told how "the Queen's passing has left an unimaginable void in all our lives" in an emotional tribute yesterday.

The monarch's youngest son's loving words came as he and his wife Sophie, the Countess of Wessex, paused to look at flowers left by well-wishers at Windsor Castle.

Prince Edward said the Royal Family had been "overwhelmed by the tide of emotion that has engulfed us" as the nation mourns.

He explained: "As a family, we have grown up learning to share our parents – especially our beloved mama – with the nation, her realms and the Commonwealth.

"While it has been lovely to have spent time saying our own farewell privately at Balmoral, it is now time to allow others to be able to say their farewell.

"We have been overwhelmed by the tide of emotion that has engulfed us and the sheer number of people who have gone out of their way to express their own love, admiration and respect to such a very special and unique person who was always there for us.

"And now, we are there for her, united in grief. Thank you for your support, you have no idea how much it means. The Queen's passing has left an unimaginable void in all our lives."

Edward, 58, said he and Sophie, 57, *above*, loved watching their children Lady Louise Windsor, 18, and James, Viscount Severn, 14, "enjoying the places and activities that their grandparents loved so much".

He added: "Given that my mama let us spend so much time with her, I think she also rather enjoyed watching those passions blossom. Those times

Pictures: GETTY, GEORGE CRACKNELL WRIGHT/LNP, BBC

Bouquets of devotion... the Earl and Countess of Wessex thank well-wishers in Windsor. Top, Sophie views floral tributes

Edward's moving words for 'our beloved mama'

together, those happy memories, have now become massively precious to each and every one of us.

"May God bless Her Majesty and may her memory be long cherished even as the baton she has carried for these past 70 years now passes to the next generation and to my brother, Charles. Long live the King."

The heartfelt statement came as the Earl and Countess of Wessex paused to view the flower tributes, trinkets and toys outside Windsor Castle. The pair smiled and laughed as they collected flowers and balloons from the crowd before adding them to the sea of bouquets at the Cambridge Gate.

Shankar Parmar, from South Shields, Tyneside, said: "I told him how sorry I was for his loss and he said 'thank you. I think we've all lost someone this week'." Hundreds of well-wishers continue to stream into Windsor every day. More than 50,000 stems have been sold by one flower shop alone since the Queen's death.

'It is now time to allow others to be able to say their farewell'

Natalie Prince, 35, of family-run Darling Buds of Windsor, said the most popular blooms were royal purple hydrangeas, sunflowers and stocks, thought to be the Queen's favourite. She said: "I've never seen, in 13 years of being a florist, a demand this high."

'Shared passions'... Edward spoke of the joy of seeing son James and daughter Louise enjoy what his mother loved

Pilgrims' progress to see Queen

But there's up to a 24-hour wait in The Queue

By **Robert Kellaway** and **Emily Braeger**

THOSE hoping to see the Queen lying in state were warned last night they face a 24-hour wait after the line was paused twice – and a queue formed for The Queue.

The stream of mourners heading for Westminster Hall stretched to five miles yesterday, alongside the River Thames to Southwark Park in south-east London.

The line of well-wishers, now visible from space, could be closed up to 24 hours before the lying-in-state ends at 6.30am on Monday, prior to the monarch's state funeral.

Tens of thousands of people packed a three-mile zigzag in the Bermondsey venue and by 9.50am officials announced it would close and asked people to stay away for six hours until at least 4pm.

But still they came. Around 50 people every minute continued to arrive until the park was shut to new entrants at 11.35am.

A queue to join what has been dubbed The Queue immediately formed as people begged to be admitted for what was then a 14-hour wait.

Those lucky to be in the park itself entered a series of pens and were ushered through three zones, typically taking three hours to cross. The massed thousands stood patiently in dappled sunlight beneath the park's famous plane tree canopy. A chilling breeze cut through but people seemed ready for anything and most were sensibly attired with water and picnic-bag supplies.

Spontaneous cheering broke out every time the marshals called forward the next group of around 100 people from the head of Zone 1 and escorted them across the busy Jamaica Road and towards the ancient river.

They snaked through the back streets of Bermondsey to the Thames where people were soon greeted with magnificent views of Tower Bridge and a sobering realisation of just how far they had yet to go.

They included retired Naval officer Sally Blackett, 64, proudly displaying a union flag from her rucksack in which she was carrying pictures of most of her family to take them with her to see the late monarch.

Pride...Sally and dad's picture

Almost her entire family has served in the Royal Navy over four generations of continuous service since 1924.

Her father, husband, brother, father-in-law and grandfather-in-law were all officers and her son is currently serving as a commander.

Sally from Midhurst, West Sussex, had arrived just before 9am and by 4pm had got as far as London Bridge. She recalled when husband Jeff, 67, a retired commodore and lawyer, was invited to lunch with the Queen and Prince Philip while serving as Judge Advocate General.

Sally said: "That was the highlight of his career. After lunch the Queen asked if her guests minded if she fed her dogs. Some dog biscuits came on a silver salver and the Queen dispensed them to the dogs. Then they were to take coffee in another room. My husband walked alongside the Queen.

"She had two or three corgis and as she turned to enter the coffee room she said to them, 'along you go'. The dogs obediently walked straight on in line astern to a different room. My husband was impressed and complemented Her Majesty on her 'command'. The Queen paused, then laid a hand on his arm, looked him in the eye and said: 'Well I am the Queen you know'." Sally added: "With so many Naval officers in the family the Queen was the boss to all of us.

"I've brought pictures of my family as I will feel we have all paid our respects."

RAF veteran Peter Berry MBE, 74, caught the 6.37am train service from Dorchester, Dorset, and entered the park at 9.50am. He was not expecting to reach Westminster Hall until after midnight.

The retired squadron leader who served for 34 years was awarded the MBE for his service in Kosovo and was presented with the honour by the Queen at Buckingham

BAN ON OFFICIALS FROM CHINA AT LYING-IN-STATE

CHINESE dignitaries have been barred from attending the Queen's lying-in-state ahead of her state funeral.

Commons Speaker Sir Lindsay Hoyle, *below*, is said to have refused access, due to Chinese sanctions against five MPs and two peers.

But a spokeswoman for the Chinese foreign ministry claimed last night that no such decision had been made, saying the UK should show "proper manners to guests".

President Xi Jinping was invited to the funeral but is sending a delegation led by vice-president Wang Qishan.

Tory MPs Tim Loughton and Sir Iain Duncan Smith said it was "extraordinary" he was invited, after China sanctioned them and seven other Britons for accusing Beijing of mistreating Uighur Muslims last year.

Beckham lines up for

By **Emily Braeger**

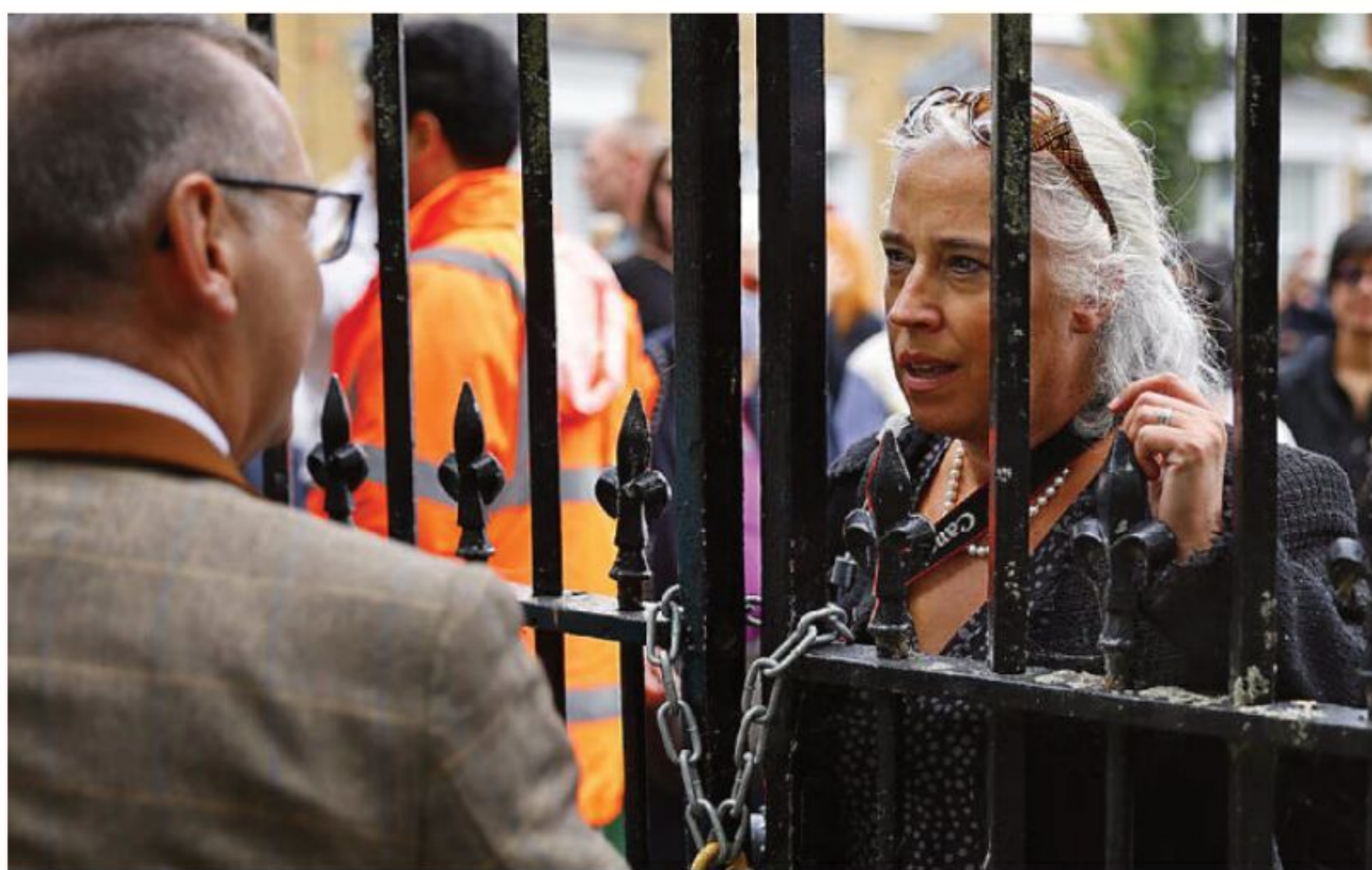
DAVID Beckham caused a stir as he joined thousands queuing to pay their respects to Her Majesty – one of the few stars to do so.

The football legend, 47, kept a low profile in a dark flat cap, suit and tie as he waited for 12 hours to view the late monarch lying in state at Westminster Hall.

Beckham joined the queue at Southwark Park at 2am yesterday, apparently on his own, to avoid the crowds – but he was eventually spotted by fellow well-wishers.

He said: "This day was always going to be a difficult day. Our thoughts are with the family. It's very special to hear all of the stories from people here.

"The most special moment for me was to receive my OBE. I took my grandparents with me, who were huge royalists. I was so lucky I was able to have a few moments like that in my life to be around Her Majesty."

One fellow mourner tweeted: "The queue is now full of people trying to

Picture: GETTY, GEORGE CRACKNELL WRIGHT/LNP, BBC

Lines of duty... thousands fill Southwark Park. Left, a woman asks when queue will restart after sign says it is paused

Palace. Asked if he was daunted by the 14-hour wait, he replied: "Not a bit. The Queen was the Commander in Chief.

"During my career we quite often went for days without sleep to get the job done, so it's just using that mindset once again."

Retired Police Chief Superintendent Chris Rollings, 60, travelled from Leicester to represent his family of six children and six grandchildren. He said: "I swore an oath of allegiance to the crown and served for 31 years so it is important to me. It's a lovely atmosphere, I've made friends all around."

Sophie Pinks, 37, and her dad Bob, 66, travelled from Rugby, Warwicks, to join The Queue at 8.55am.

Mum of two Sophie, a local government officer, said: "I'm proud of our Royal Family and this is just about respect really.

"The Queen did so much for our country that it was important for me and my dad to thank her."

Nitin Pandit, 67, typified the friendships forming across The Queue. He travelled alone from Carshalton, Surrey, but by the time he stepped off the train to London had become acquainted with Heena Patel, 40 and Elizabeth Stacey Matuszewska, 45, and they agreed to queue together.

Nitin said: "My parents married in Nairobi in Kenya in 1952 when the then Princess Elizabeth was on an official visit to the country.

"It was then that King George VI died and she became Queen. I came to this country and feel a bond with Her Majesty because of this memory. Like everyone here, the hours in the queue are not as important as being able to say goodbye."

Giving thanks... Sophie Pinks

Not everyone was happy with the queuing process. Tired and hungry mourners, who waited through the night found the two-hour wait at the final zigzag at Victoria Tower Gardens too much after waiting 10 to 14 hours. One, who did not want to be named said: "Once in this area, there was nowhere to buy water and no toilets. People were dropping like flies, literally dropping to their knees."

● TWO women were allegedly sexually assaulted as they waited to attend the Queen's lying-in-state, a court has heard. Adio Adeshine, 19, allegedly exposed himself and pushed into the mourners as they waited at Victoria Tower Gardens on Wednesday evening after Westminster Hall opened its doors to the public. He is said to have gone into the River Thames in an attempt to evade police officers.

12hr epic

photograph David Beckham and forgetting to actually move onwards. It's madness!"

Good Morning Britain host Susanna Reid queued for seven hours and 40 minutes to enter Westminster Hall with her mother Sue, who brought a friend, on Thursday.

She tweeted: "I have just experienced a moment in history."

This Morning presenters Phillip Schofield and Holly Willoughby were also seen in the hall as they paid their respects to the late monarch, clad in all-black outfits.

Journey...Beckham queued overnight

King Charles joins

By **Steph Spyro**

HIS Majesty's public came out in force to give condolences and best wishes to King Charles during a whirlwind tour of the Welsh capital yesterday.

Thousands waved flags and chanted "God Save the King" when the new King and Queen Consort Camilla arrived in Cardiff.

The royal couple's visit began with a service of prayer and reflection at Llandaff Cathedral, where some people had waited since 3.30am to catch a glimpse of them.

Hundreds, including schoolchildren, greeted the grieving royals with cheers, applause and flowers wherever they went.

Excited well-wishers lined the route as a motorcade took the King and Camilla from one engagement to the next.

The smiling monarch looked equally as happy to see his subjects, often waving back at his adoring public.

His arrival in Cardiff marked the final stop on a tour of the home nations, following visits to Scotland, Northern Ireland and England earlier this week.

The Queen was described as a "towering figure on the world stage" during the memorial service.

In his address, the Most Rev Andy John, the Archbishop of Wales, said: "Her ability to influence, to utilise soft power – no less significant, no less authoritative – illustrates the wise and careful thought she brought to her role.

"Prime ministers found that she was a trusted confidante. Her attention to matters of Government, her knowledge of world events and the longevity of her reign gave her an unmatched perspective and ability to see the distant scene.

"Her late Majesty was also a towering figure on the world stage, embodying a continuity and stability but, perhaps more than that, values, which are shared across nations and cultures."

Gratitude

The King looked solemn in a dark suit and black tie, while Camilla paid tribute to the late monarch, wearing a leek brooch given to her by the Queen.

Prime Minister Liz Truss and Welsh First Minister Mark Drakeford were among the congregation who attended the moving service.

A crowd of several hundred then cheered as the King and Queen Consort travelled to the Welsh Parliament building in a Rolls-Royce.

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards, 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, and The Royal Welsh, sailors from the Royal Navy, and RAF personnel flanked the route between the cathedral and the Senedd. Trumpeters from the Regimental Band and Corps of the Drums of The Royal Welsh also performed.

Inside the Welsh Parliament, King Charles expressed "immense gratitude" for his time serving as Prince of Wales, as he said his son, William – the new Prince – also held a deep love for the country.

In his speech, delivered partly in Welsh, the King said that Wales "could not have been closer" to the heart of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II.

The monarch was responding to a motion of condolence offered by Mr Drakeford, who described the late Queen's reign as "unrivalled in its length and its reach".

The King told the Senedd: "Through all the years of her reign, the land of Wales could not have been closer to my mother's heart. I know she took immense pride in your many great achievements – even as she also felt with you deeply in times of sorrow.

"It must surely be counted the greatest privilege to belong to a land that could inspire such devotion.

"I am resolved to honour that selfless example, in the spirit of the words by which I have always tried to live my own life: Ich Dien, I Serve."

He continued: "I take up my new duties with immense gratitude for the privilege of having been able to serve as Prince of Wales. That ancient title, dating from the time of those great Welsh rulers, like Llywelyn ap Gruffudd, whose memory is still rightly honoured, I now pass to my son, William, whose love for this corner of the Earth is made all the greater by the years he himself has spent here."

The occasion was not entirely free of acrimony, as a group of Welsh nationalists booed the new monarch as he left the Senedd.

However, their protests were soon drowned out by cheers from the crowd.

And as the King and Queen Consort moved on to Cardiff Castle, there was even more celebration and flag waving.

The royal couple headed into the castle for an audience with First Minister Mr Drakeford and met with invited guests for a reception in the castle's banqueting hall.

The Aberfan Wives group was also present at the reception. They said the Queen had travelled to the area "at the right time" after tragedy struck in 1966.

Patronages

A total of 116 children and 28 adults were killed when a colliery spoil tip collapsed, engulfing a primary school and surrounding houses in the village of Aberfan. The Queen's decision to act on advice to delay her visit to the scene for eight days was said to be one of the greatest regrets of her reign.

The King and Queen Consort also met members of the public in the grounds of Cardiff Castle before leaving Wales.

On a lighter note, King Charles was introduced to Shenkin IV, the goat mascot for the Royal Welsh Third Battalion, at the castle.

Welcome to Wales King Charles

Royal wonder... King Charles laughs as he greets public in Cardiff yesterday, after warm welcome, left. He arrived with Queen Consort Camilla, inset

Cathedral service... PM Liz Truss

Pictures: GETTY, TOM WREN / SWNS, ROWAN GRIFFITHS

Joy...flag-waving fans greeted the King in Cardiff after waiting for hours by the castle, below right. The monarch met First Minister Mark Drakeford, top right, and also got to meet Shenkin IV, a goat who acts as a military mascot, below

adoring crowds in Wales

It comes as the new Prince and Princess of Wales – William and Kate – are expected to review their patronages after taking on upgraded roles.

Some Welsh rugby fans have already complained that Kate, their country's new Princess, is also patron of the Rugby Football Union and is therefore expected to support England in matches between the two nations. She only took on the role in January, becoming the first member of the Royal Family to accept a patronage stripped from Prince Harry after he quit senior royal duties.

Her husband Prince William is already patron of the Welsh Rugby Union.

Any review of patronages could also lead to them representing some of the Welsh organisations that the new King was patron of when he was heir to the throne.

A royal source said the couple were focused on mourning, but suggested they would look at patronages in the future. They added: "I think patronages is something we haven't had time to look at yet."

MONARCH RAISES 'CONCERNS' FOR STRUGGLING FAMILIES

By **Martyn Brown** Deputy Political Editor

KING Charles III has expressed his fears about how struggling families are going to cope with soaring costs this winter.

In his first political intervention since ascending the throne, the King was said to be "concerned" over how people will manage with enormous energy bills.

His Majesty passed on his worries in a meeting yesterday in Cardiff with Welsh First Minister Mark Drakeford, who later said: "The King has always had a very direct interest in the things that are happening in contemporary Wales…

"He mentioned the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and how that will impact on people here. He is concerned as to how people will manage through what is going to be a difficult winter."

Mr Drakeford said the King told him about positive projects he was aware of, including ones aiming to limit food waste.

He added that he was "interested, as always, in renewable energy generation here in Wales, and how it might play a bigger part in future energy security".

Greetings…King by cathedral in Cardiff

The monarchy is a reminder of constant fight to be better

COMMENT
ESTHER KRAKUE
Writer and broadcaster

THE death of any monarch raises profound questions about the institution of royalty itself.

Republicans and monarchists battle it out to see whose arguments resonate best with the public.

And although Britain arguably boasts the most successful constitutional monarchy the world has ever seen, questions are still being raised over the role of the institution in a post-colonial, 21st-century Britain.

Naturally, this has also brought into question the role of the Commonwealth.

As someone who grew up in Ghana, I have been surprised by how little understanding critics of this institution seem to have.

Over the past few days, critics have called for everything from the Royal Family going on a global "apology tour", to disbanding it entirely.

Of course, such naive, virtue-signalling demands are often made by sour-faced republicans with limited knowledge of member states.

The Commonwealth is an entirely free association of equal, self-governing states, bound together by shared traditions, institutions, and most importantly, economic self-interest. It has a combined population of 2.4 billion people, making up almost a third of the world's population. And the values binding all these people together include democracy, human rights, and gender equality. On the face of it, there's very little to object to.

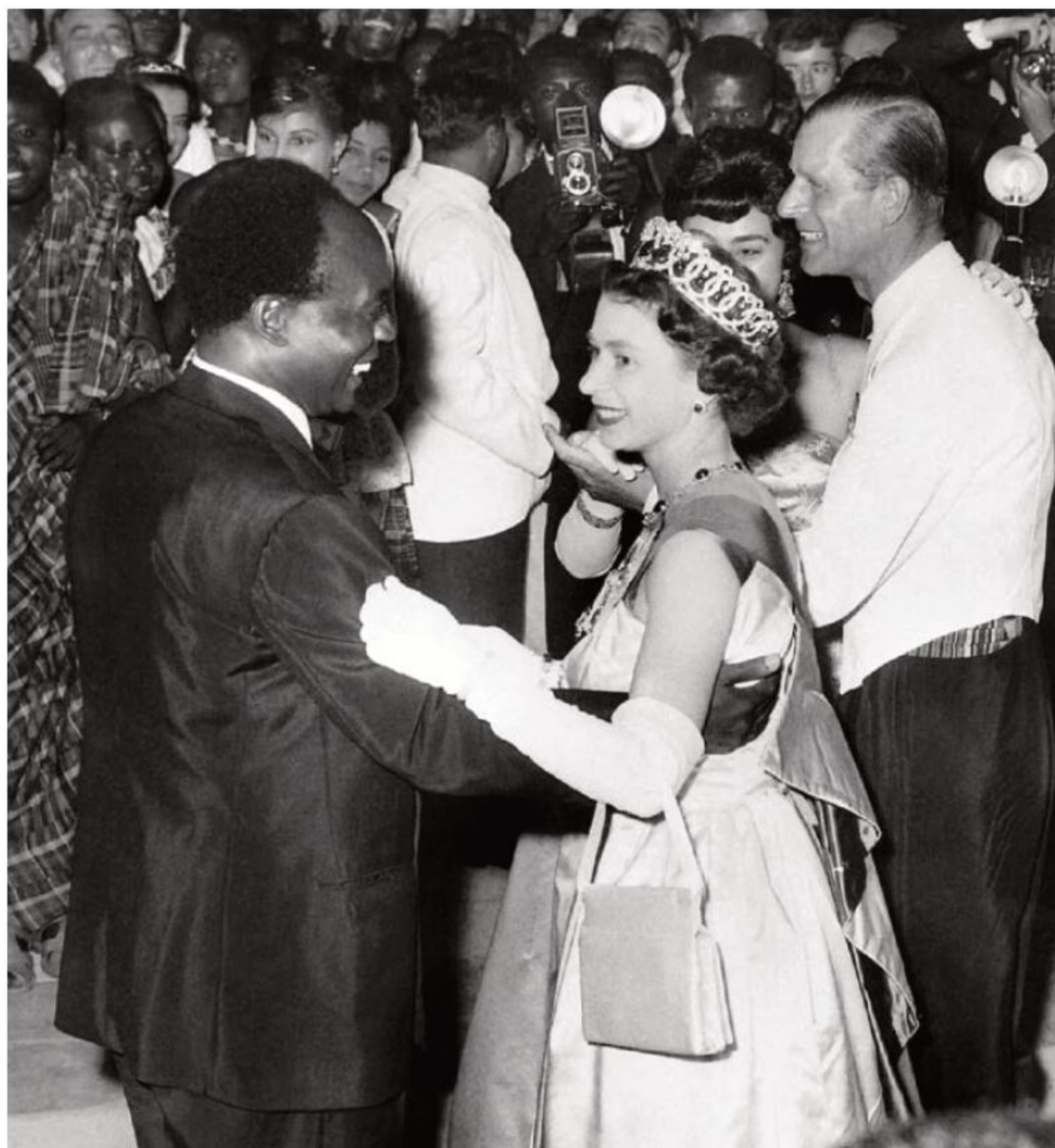
I would argue the Commonwealth is the Queen's most significant legacy – taking the budding and unstable union of seven countries to 56 in her lifetime.

We observed in real-time how her warmth and relentless dedication to embodying British values saw even the staunchest anti-monarchists join the fold. A perfect example of this is Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana's first president and a raging socialist.

At a time when his country's ruling elite were pressing for closer alignment with the Soviet bloc, it was Her Majesty's 1961 trip to Accra and subsequent foxtrot with Dr Nkrumah at an official ball in Accra that changed the tide.

Many former British colonies followed Ghana's lead and became members. To the organisation's credit, even countries that were never part of Empire opted to join: including Rwanda, Mozambique and, most recently, Togo and Gabon.

How many countries can boast of uniting such an array of countries in the pursuit of universal ideals like tolerance, peace and the rule of law?

Even the United States, which came out of the Second World War as the globe's leading superpower, has yet to achieve such a feat. Every Briton should be proud of this legacy that we share. Moreover, there is a symbolic significance lost on many of its critics. Although some have labelled the Commonwealth as continuing the evil legacy of the Empire, it was the Queen who oversaw its mass dissolution and decolonisation. She championed the largely peaceful transition towards democracy.

Many on the Left have branded the Commonwealth a "gilded cage", yet the independent states who chose to join it didn't see it this way. They saw it as a living, breathing legacy that sought to enshrine fundamental rights, far removed from the volatile whims of corrupt politicians, activists, and even outdated constitutions.

'The Queen championed the largely peaceful transition to democracy'

Why look to a single politician as the defender of liberty, rather than upholding an institution that remains a symbol of hope for its 2.4 billion members across the world?

The monarchy is a constant reminder of the fight to be better, as Britain herself embodies.

Equally, the cultural relevance of the Commonwealth cannot be overlooked.

Commonwealth members occupy regions of the world which are more naturally inclined to British values than many modern Britons themselves.

Values such as duty, family and patriotism may be more fashionable in these communities than in their traditional British counterparts.

The passing of the Queen and the crowning of our new monarch King Charles III has made one thing very clear: Commonwealth critics don't see how patronising and unhelpful they are. Those who would abolish the institution or weaken its legitimacy by rebranding its legacy are selfish and short-sighted.

They have never spared a thought to the billions of people who chose to become part of the Commonwealth.

What good does constant self-flagellation and apologising for the past sins of dead people do for the people in the Commonwealth?

Who benefits from shallow displays of sanctimonious self-aggrandising? Whose life does it improve?

Critics of the Commonwealth demanding an "apology tour" are detached from reality. Of course, reconciliation was never their point. It was always to be as disparaging about Britain and its history as possible.

I will be the first to admit Britain's history is complicated and nuanced, filled in equal measure with atrocities and developments.

But the fact that more than 90 per cent of Commonwealth members are located in Africa and Asia, should put to rest ridiculous arguments about the institution being a symbol of white supremacy.

The most important point to reiterate is the Commonwealth's role in the modern world. Much to the chagrin of a hostile few, post-Brexit Britain still has an important role to play in the world.

In an increasingly tense global landscape with the threat of Russia and China expanding their ideological reach beyond their borders, the Commonwealth presents a rare gift to reassert British values around the world.

If my generation is wise, it will seek to cherish and strengthen this legacy, instead of needlessly casting it aside for a much darker unknown.

In step...the Queen's foxtrot with Kwame Nkrumah kept Ghana in the Commonwealth

Elegant... Kate spoke of 'lack of sleep' during her visit to Pirbright Army Training Centre

Pictures: JONATHAN BUCKMASTER

Tradition...New Zealand forces perform the haka for Prince and Princess yesterday

‘Queen will be looking down on her funeral’

By **Richard Palmer**
Royal Correspondent

PRINCE William told soldiers yesterday that his grandmother will be watching her funeral from above and hoping all goes well.

The Prince of Wales’s comments came as he and Kate paid a visit to Army Training Centre Pirbright to meet Commonwealth troops who will be taking part in the Queen’s funeral procession on Monday.

He said his grandmother would have been interested to see the soldiers’ precision, drill and dress during the event.

The Queen always took a close interest in all things military.

During a visit to the Royal Welsh Regiment at Tidworth, Wilts, in 2017, she revealed that as she had got older, soldiers had found her “a little less frightening”.

At the Surrey camp yesterday, William, 40, spoke to troops from the New Zealand Defence Force, who performed the traditional haka Maori ceremonial dance for him and Kate.

Honour

Corporal Greg Gifford, 31, of the Royal New Zealand Infantry, said: “Prince William said the Queen would be looking down and studying the details of the soldiers and the precision of the drill, which he said she really used to like.”

He added: “It is such an enormous honour to be here. William and Kate are wonderful, so interested in us and thanking us for coming over for the occasion.

“My mother will be watching on television and crying with pride.”

Speaking to troops from Australia, Canada and New Zealand who have been rehearsing this week, the royal couple also remarked how “strange” it had been going from the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee to her funeral in a matter of months.

Talking with troops from Australia, William was heard saying the difference between the June celebrations and the funeral preparations showed “the highs and lows of it all”. And Kate told Canadian service members: “Going from that to this in a few months is very strange.”

Looking understandably tired after the strains of the past few days, Kate, 40 was also heard discussing a “lack of sleep”.

The New Zealand, Canadian and Australians will be involved alongside British soldiers in the funeral procession.

They are being housed at Pirbright until the funeral and have been holding practice marches across the site.

Corporal Kyle Kajari, of the Canadian Ceremonial Contingent, who took part in the Jubilee, spoke with William about the Queen.

He said: “He was asking how we felt about Monday coming up. My response to him was, ‘Sorry for your loss’.

“He talked about how he’s mourned and how many people feel like they’ve lost a grandmother and how important she was to the country and the Commonwealth.”

Royals on parade...William and Kate talk to troops practising for Monday’s funeral

Prince's special bond

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KING Charles III yesterday visited a Wales which has been transformed in the years since he became its prince. His decades of service as Prince of Wales have won him deep affection in this nation, as demonstrated by the enthusiasm of the crowds that waited for him outside Llandaff Cathedral and the Welsh Parliament, also known as the Senedd.

His son, William, as the new Prince of Wales, will now work to strengthen his bonds with this unique part of the United Kingdom as he journeys towards the day when he becomes King.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have special connections to Wales. They lived on Anglesey when the Prince worked at RAF Valley as a helicopter pilot.

He has described how they made their "first home together" on the island and how it will "always be an immensely special place" for them both.

Together with their three children, they may choose to make use of the cottage in Llwynywermod in Carmarthenshire, bought by the Duchy of Cornwall in 2006, which his father has used as a Welsh base. The majestic horizons of the Brecon Beacons are close by, offering the family the opportunity for adventure and solitude.

With the passing of the Queen, the Prince has lost a cherished grandmother and another season of upheaval has begun as he adapts to life as the heir to the throne. There is speculation the family may move from their new home in Adelaide Cottage in Windsor Home Park to the great castle.

Beyond the logistical dilemmas facing the Prince and Princess, their biggest challenge is how they can take forward the legacy of the Queen and ensure the monarchy remains a relevant and treasured part of national life in a fast-changing Britain.

Also, it will be of paramount importance that Prince George, Princess Charlotte and Prince Louis enjoy the happiest childhoods possible. Their parents are rightly protective of their privacy and will not want the pressures of their elevation to ever-higher office to deny them the opportunity to thrive.

WALES WATCHING: William and Kate, main, at Llanddwyn beach on Anglesey in 2019; launching a new RNLI lifeboat in 2011, left and above; William, right, in 2012 during his time as a search and rescue pilot

THE family should be assured that the people of Britain have already taken this quintet to their hearts and wish them comfort during this time of mourning and happiness as a new era begins. Days of excitement await and there is every reason to think that the Prince and Princess will help fashion a monarchy in which the whole country will take pride.

The Prince has already won respect through his seven and a half years of full-time military service, and he has approached his life as a working royal with serious-minded commitment and an impressive awareness of some of the greatest issues of our time. Together with Prince Harry, he has helped torch taboos around mental health through the Heads Together initiative.

He also shares his late mother's concern for the homeless, and earlier this year he caused a minor sensation when he sold copies of The Big Issue in London, wearing a red vendor's vest and baseball cap.

Furthermore, he has inherited his father's passion for the environment and is a driving force behind the Earthshot Prize, a global award intended to spur on efforts to repair the planet.

The public respect both his diligence and maturity. He shows no interest in leading a celebrity lifestyle but understands the vital role the monarchy plays as a force for unity, bringing together the four increasingly diverse nations of the UK.

His father will find that the Prince and Princess of Wales are together a spring of wisdom, keenly aware of the hopes and fears of ordinary families.

With politicians often focused on the issues most likely to excite the "swing voters" who decide the outcomes of elections, the Crown has a vital role to play by putting a regal spotlight on the challenges confronting the most under-privileged of communities.

The Prince will not jump into constitutional debates but he will want to pay close attention to the changing cultures of Northern Ireland, Scotland and, particularly, Wales. Welsh First Minister Mark Drakeford has said there is a "legitimate" debate about the Prince of Wales title passing to William.

By yesterday, more than 28,500 people had signed a petition which described the title as an "insult to Wales and is a symbol of historical oppression".

There was a storm of controversy in 2018 when the Second Severn Crossing was renamed the Prince of Wales Bridge. And the surest way for an after-dinner speaker in Wales to lose the support of the room is to describe the nation as a "principality".

In Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland,

with land of his father

Pictures: AFP/GETTY, PA, REUTERS

the era of self-government unleashed on Prime Minister Tony Blair's watch has fuelled the development of distinct political cultures. In the years since their new legislatures gathered for the first time, public support for devolution has cemented.

The union will be in trouble if the UK Parliament in Westminster is increasingly seen as England's Parliament and not an institution in which all populations have an important voice and stake.

So the monarchy needs to have a vibrant relationship with the people of each nation based on deep respect and a true understanding of the different aspirations and cultures. King Charles has described that when he learned at the age of nine that he would be made Prince of Wales he thought: "What on earth have I been let in for?"

HE HAS vivid memories of the protests he faced when he studied Welsh language and history at Aberystwyth University – with "middle-aged ladies" staging counter-protests and attacking the demonstrators with "umbrellas and handbags".

His investiture as Prince of Wales in 1969 triggered more than protests. Two members of Mudiad Amddiffyn Cymru (the Movement for the Defence of Wales) were killed when planting a bomb in Abergele on the eve of the ceremony.

In the decades since, the King has championed Welsh culture at every opportunity and made friends in communities throughout this nation.

There is no reason to think that the Prince and Princess of Wales will not also find a vital and appreciated place in Welsh life, celebrating its arts, showcasing its natural wonders and shining a light on its most exciting companies.

The Queen earned the love of people of radically different cultures throughout the Commonwealth, winning respect with her warmth, integrity, devotion to duty and inherent goodness.

The present generation of Royals have had a unique opportunity to learn the art of servant leadership from a truly great monarch.

In 2008, King Charles told an audience in Caerphilly: "I have tried my best to live up to the motto of my predecessors, 'Ich Dien' – I serve." He has done this with dedication, kindness and panache.

The Prince and Princess of Wales will bring their unique energies and insights to their new roles and prove a blessing for a magnificent nation.

Gathering...King with faith leaders in Wales yesterday including Mark O'Toole, Archbishop of Cardiff, centre

I'll be defender of all faiths

By **Richard Palmer**
Royal Correspondent

THE King has vowed to protect diverse cultures and religions as part of his role as monarch.

Charles III has become Supreme Governor of the Church of England, with the styling Defender of the Faith.

But as heir to the throne he had suggested he would be a defender of all faiths, and worked hard to encourage religious tolerance.

The King met faith leaders at a reception in the Bow Room at Buckingham Palace last night.

He said: "I have always thought of Britain as a community of communities. That has led me to understand that the sovereign has an additional duty – less formally recognised but to be no less diligently discharged.

"It is the duty to protect the diversity of our country, including by protecting the space for faith itself and its practice through the religions, cultures, traditions and beliefs to which our hearts and minds direct us as individuals."

His Coronation is expected to be a deeply religious, traditional Anglican service. But, in all other aspects of his work, he is expected to continue as a voice seeking to bring people of all faiths and cultural backgrounds together.

He added: "I am a committed Anglican Christian, and at my Coronation I will take an oath relating to the settlement of the Church of England. At my Accession, I have already solemnly given – as has every sovereign over the last 300 years – an oath which pledges to maintain and preserve the Protestant faith in Scotland."

Sombre...monarch meets Aberfan victims group

But he said a commitment to diversity went with his faith and his role as King. He added: "This diversity is not just enshrined in the laws of our country, it is enjoined by my own faith. As a member of the Church of England, my Christian beliefs have love at their very heart."

King Charles had earlier met with members of faith communities at a reception at Cardiff Castle, including Mark O'Toole, the Archbishop of Cardiff.

He also met wives and mothers of victims of the 1966 Aberfan mining disaster at the gathering.

'Reach out to our lonely mourners'

By **Paul Jeeves**

THE Archbishops of Canterbury and York are spearheading a nationwide call to ensure no one is left to grieve alone during the Queen's funeral.

The Most Rev Justin Welby, who met mourners at the Palace of Westminster on Thursday, and Archbishop of York, the Most Rev Stephen Cottrell, are backing a drive for spaces where people can gather on Monday.

The Together Coalition, co-founded by Brendan Cox, the husband of murdered Labour MP Jo Cox, fears many who live by themselves could become distraught and struggle to cope with their grief alone. Dozens of religious groups, charities and cultural bodies have also backed the bid.

High-vis...Justin Welby at palace

In a joint open letter, Archbishops Welby and Cottrell said: "We urge companies, councils and public spaces to do whatever they can.

"And even more importantly, we urge all of us to reach out to neighbours, friends, anyone who might find this moment difficult.

"Invite them to watch it together, raise a glass to Her Majesty or someone we've lost, or simply just be together."

They added: "The Queen has many legacies, but one of the most important is her work in bringing people together.

"It would be fitting that her funeral might do the same."

Mr Cox said: "The Queen has done so much to bring the country together. Now it is our turn to do our bit."

Call...Charles in Dumfries House the day before the Queen died

From **Hanna Geissler**
in Windsor

KING Charles learned of his mother's deteriorating health only hours before her death, prompting a helicopter dash to reach her bedside.

It was revealed the then Prince of Wales received an urgent phone call shortly before the Queen's grave condition was made public.

Family members raced to her Balmoral estate on Thursday last week as it was announced she was under close medical supervision.

A statement from Buckingham Palace officials said that doctors were "concerned for Her Majesty's health" before the nation waited several hours for further news.

At the ready...royal helicopter at Balmoral. Right, floral tribute to Queen at Dumfries House

Jack Royston, Newsweek's chief royal correspondent, described how the King reacted.

He said: "Charles and Camilla were in Dumfries House [150 miles away in Ayrshire].

"Camilla was actually about to record a TV interview with [US journalist] Jenna Bush Hager, who said she heard footsteps running in the hallway.

"Charles took a call, everything was silent, and they were asked to be silent. Then the next thing she knew, Charles and Camilla were in a helicopter. And that was at 12.30, so that was around about exactly the same time that we were told.

"So they didn't wait, they didn't give Charles an hour or two hours [before telling the public]," said Mr Royston during an appearance on True Royalty TV

The devastating news came just two days after the Queen broke with tradition and appointed her 15th Prime Minister at Balmoral

Pictures: PA, PETER JOLLY

Charles heard 'footsteps running in the corridor,' he took a call ...everything went silent

King in helicopter dash to Balmoral

Anxious...Charles boards helicopter to Balmoral where the Queen was photographed just two days before, below

rather than travelling to the Palace. Ms Bush Hager, daughter of former President George W Bush, was one of the last people to see Charles before he ascended to the throne.

She had dined with the King and the Queen Consort the night before, describing him as "relaxed and joyful".

The Queen had been blessed with good health for much of her 70-year reign, with no major medical conditions confirmed and very few hospital stays. Ms Bush Hager said Her Majesty's sudden decline appeared to be a surprise to the Royal Family.

She had been preparing to interview Camilla about her book club when the news arrived that it had been cancelled.

The 40-year-old journalist said the mood suddenly changed as the future King took a phone call.

Ms Bush Hager said: "We heard noises, they came in and said: 'Can you please be quiet there's a call.' We were right by then Prince Charles's – now King Charles III's – office. And then all of a sudden we heard a helicopter go off.

"They came in and said your interview...has been postponed, they have just left for Balmoral.

"They said the Queen is ill and they have gone and rushed off to be with her. We just said 'Our hearts are with them'."

Princess Anne had been undertaking engagements in the area and was able to be with her mother during her final hours.

The Queen's devoted daughter later accompanied her mother's coffin on the journey from Edinburgh to Buckingham Palace.

She said in a statement: "I was fortunate to share the last 24 hours of my dearest Mother's life.

"It has been an honour and a privilege to accompany her on her final journeys."

The Princess added: "Witnessing the love and respect shown by so many on these journeys has been both humbling and uplifting."

The Queen's other children Prince Andrew and Prince Edward, plus his wife Sophie, joined the Duke of Cambridge on a hastily arranged flight up to Aberdeen from London, the group driving through the gates of the Highland estate just after 5pm.

Although Buckingham Palace aides have not confirmed the Queen's time of death, it is thought that they were unable to see their much-loved matriarch before she passed away.

The Duke of Sussex – who happened to be visiting the UK with his wife Meghan – also rushed to Scotland, arriving at Balmoral shortly before eight that evening.

The Queen's death had been confirmed in a statement from Buckingham Palace at 6.32pm.

A steady stream of mourners continued to arrive at Windsor Castle yesterday, leaving floral tributes at the Cambridge Gate.

Prince Andrew, Duke of York, was seen viewing the stunning carpet of flowers inside the grounds with his ex-wife Sarah Ferguson.

Dressed in black, the Duchess of York appeared to take a photo of some of the tributes and messages.

BROKEN TOE COULD NOT STOP CAMILLA

THE Queen Consort has reportedly been nursing a broken toe while carrying out royal duties at the King's side.

Camilla, 75, inset, suffered the injury prior to the Queen's death last Thursday and has been in "quite a lot of pain". A source said she has been "getting on" with the job of supporting the King during a gruelling week.

The source added: "It is unfortunate timing, to say the least, but she's been an absolute trouper."

The Royal couple carried out several visits in Wales yesterday. They attended a service in Cardiff before receiving condolences at the Welsh parliament, the Senedd.

The couple started the week in Scotland, before flying to England and Northern Ireland.

Cinemas' 'sold out' viewings

By **Chris Riches**

MANY free live cinema screenings of the Queen's funeral are already fully booked.

Around 150 venues are opening from 10am on Monday.

In northern regions, Vue cinemas in Bolton, Bury, Salford Quays, Manchester and Altrincham have run out of tickets – and seats for the Vue cinema in Hull were snapped up in less than 12 hours.

A Vue spokesman said: "Seats will be free of charge and our retail offering will be limited to complimentary bottled water during the broadcast, with no other snacks or drinks available for purchase."

The chains Arc and Curzon have said booking is necessary for free seats.

Cineworld, Showcase and Odeon – three of the largest UK chains – are not showing the service and will remain closed all day.

C4 offer crowning instead...

By **Naomi Clarke**

CHANNEL 4 will screen a 1953 documentary of the Queen's coronation while the state funeral is being broadcast on other channels.

A Queen Is Crowned, is narrated by Sir Laurence Olivier and was Oscar-nominated.

The Channel 4 schedule on Monday will also observe the two-minute silence for the Elizabeth II.

A Channel 4 spokesman: "On the day Britain says farewell to its longest-serving monarch, Channel 4 will be airing A Queen Is Crowned so viewers can experience both the beginning and end of her remarkable reign."

Huw Edwards, Kirsty Young and David Dimbleby are among the presenters anchoring BBC coverage.

Tom Bradby and Julie Etchingham will lead on ITV with overall coverage likely to attract one of the largest audiences for decades.

Out in force...more than 15,500 police officers will be on duty on Monday, including firearms units,

Biggest ring of steel

Royal duty...The Met Police still wear the insignia of Queen Elizabeth

By **John Twomey**

POLICING the Queen's funeral will be a bigger operation than the London Olympics, a Scotland Yard chief revealed yesterday.

The scale of the challenge of protecting world leaders, hundreds of VIPs and potentially millions of mourners will mean more than 15,500 officers on duty on Monday.

Around 13,500 officers are earmarked for the capital with a further 2,000 at Windsor for the Queen's committal.

Almost every police force in Britain has sent officers for the funeral service and burial of Queen Elizabeth.

The "hugely complex" operation is the biggest ever mounted by the Metropolitan Police, said Deputy Assistant Commissioner Stuart Cundy.

He declined to reveal exact numbers but said it would be greater than the 2012 Olympics when 10,000 police were on duty each day.

Working with a range of other agencies, the Yard has drawn up contingency plans to deal with a range of challenges including terror attacks, criminal activity, crowd surges and crushing.

Mr Cundy said: "This will be the largest single policing event that the Met Police has ever undertaken.

"As a single event this is larger than the 2012 Olympics, it is larger than the Platinum Jubilee weekend.

"The range of officers, police staff and all those supporting the operation is truly immense."

He said the stabbing of two officers in Soho, central London, yesterday had "brought into sharp focus" the dangers of policing major events.

Although the attacks are not terror-related or linked to the death of the Queen, Mr Cundy said police chiefs are "always mindful" that similar incidents could occur during large-scale policing operations.

Yard chiefs are also faced with the biggest global security operation in its history with US President Joe Biden

Pictures: GETTY, PA

to protect mourners

and French President Emmanuel Macron amid scores of VIPs due to pay their last respects to the Queen.

Met Police Commissioner Sir Mark Rowley described the policing operation for the funeral as "enormous".

He added that his officers are being supported by "pretty much every force across the country" who are all "relishing the opportunity".

"The number of officers deployed is heading to a point where it will be well beyond the total size of a force like West Midlands (7,000) or Greater Manchester (8,000) – it will be heading into the high numbers of thousands of officers deployed," the Commissioner said.

Officers from outside forces have worked 20,000 shifts during the past week with 2,000 in a single day.

A whole range of specialist officers will be on duty including firearms officers, marine units, the mounted branch, dog handlers and motorbike escort riders.

There were a total of 34 arrests in London following the death of the Queen, Scotland Yard revealed.

They were for a range of offences but none was for protesting.

Assistant Chief Constable Tim De Meyer said all officers had been briefed on maintaining a balance of the right to free expression and keeping events safe and dignified.

ACC De Meyer, of Thames Valley Police, said more than 2,000 officers will be deployed in Windsor, Berkshire, on Monday for the Queen's committal.

He added the force has a "long and distinguished" record of policing royal events but this is the "largest and most significant" in its history.

Police have confirmed there will be "airport-style" security checks, including screening arches and bag checks, while there will also be vehicle barriers in place and armed patrols. The force said it will also use drones to monitor the crowds, as well as carrying out river patrols and searching phone boxes, drains and bins among other areas.

Mr Cundy also stressed that police would only intervene in protests when "absolutely necessary", as he insisted any action by officers would be "proportionate and balanced".

A demonstration organised by the family of Chris Kaba – who was shot dead by a firearms officer – is due to take place today. It will start in Parliament Square and then move to Scotland Yard.

Meanwhile, drones are banned in central London where there is currently a "no-fly zone".

A swimmer sparked an alert when he was spotted in the River Thames near Westminster around 3.25am on Monday.

The man had a GoPro camera and a flotation device. Officers discovered he was on a charity swim. He was not arrested.

Big task...Met's Sir Mark

Complex...Stuart Cundy

Stations to close for safety

By **Neil Lancefield**

THREE central Tube stations will be closed on the morning of the Queen's funeral to prevent overcrowding.

Transport for London said Westminster, St James's Park and Hyde Park Corner will reopen after the funeral to help clear the area.

Green Park station will be exit-only from 10am to 8pm. Many buses in central London will be diverted by road closures and Victoria coach station will shut.

Mourners arriving at London rail stations are advised to walk to their destination rather than use public transport.

City transport chief Andy Byford said: "It is going to be extremely busy. There may be short-notice changes and queues to enter stations as a result of the large numbers."

Some stations will stay open overnight on Monday to shelter mourners awaiting their trains home.

Plane ban to guard the skies

By **Laura Parnaby**

A BAN on low-flying private planes – and even kites – to protect the skies above the funeral has been extended until the end of Monday.

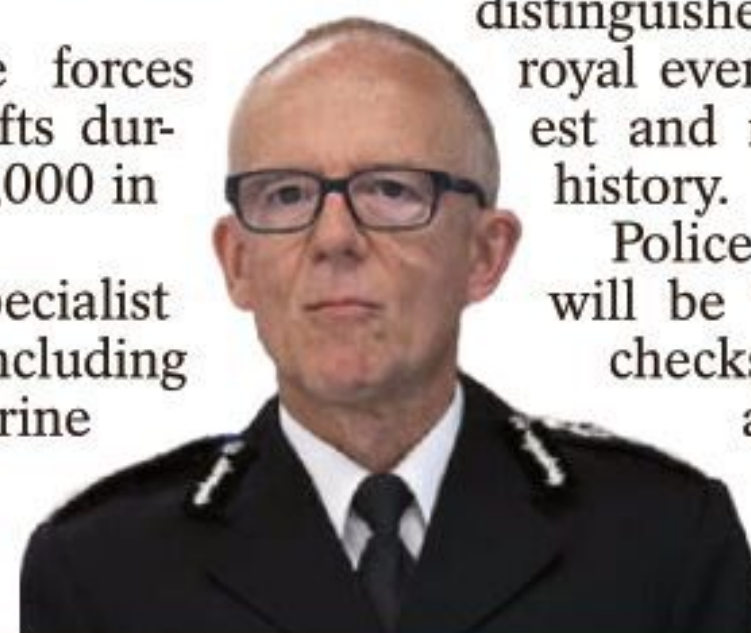
The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) said it was being enforced as part of wider security arrangements.

It applies to "aircraft" including personal jets, small balloons, kites and parachutes.

Aircraft are not allowed to fly below 2,500 feet within central London or Windsor, Berkshire, from 6am until 8pm.

A CAA spokesman said it would create a "protective blanket" over the restricted areas.

Commercial flights, however, will be unaffected as they operate above the altitude limits.

The ban is being imposed through the Restriction of Flying Regulations, under the Air Navigation Order 2016.

Everyday heroes join

By **Chris Riches**

A HOST of lifesaving Covid NHS staff, inspiring community leaders and Armed Forces heroes will join US President Joe Biden and other dignitaries and royalty at the Queen's funeral on Monday.

In total, 183 key workers and volunteers who got accolades in the Queen's Birthday Honours in June will be part of the 2,000-strong congregation gathered to bid a final farewell to the Monarch.

Close Palace staff who Queen Elizabeth II relied upon in her daily life, such as ladies-in-waiting and footmen, will also be in attendance, alongside VIPs, to pay their respects.

Downing Street said of the public who were invited to Westminster Abbey: "These individuals were recognised for their extraordinary contributions."

Retired captain Robert Lodge MBE, 71, of Essex, is attending in recognition of his work with the Red Cypher charity – which supports past and present members of 3rd Regiment Royal Horse Artillery.

Mr Lodge met the Queen in Germany in 1984 when she visited a gunner parade in Dortmund. He said: "Only this country would produce the standard of organisation and pageantry that we're seeing. Never forget it."

Another attending is Natalie Queiroz, from Birmingham, who teaches children about the dangers of knife crime after surviving a 2016 attack when heavily pregnant.

Ms Queiroz, recently recognised with an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list, was stabbed 24 times by her ex during the attack in Sutton Coldfield, W Midlands.

Invitees include Rutland-based Barbara Crellin MBE, who set up an emergency first responder scheme, and Kevan Liles MBE, who recruited around 2,500 volunteers to help in the pandemic.

Father-of-two Pranav Bhanot MBE, of Chigwell in Essex, got an invite for supporting people through the pandemic, after helping deliver 1,200 free meals. The lawyer, 34, said he also gave "free pro-bono advice for people who had cancelled weddings, couldn't get deposits back, people who lost their jobs because they got made redundant".

He added: "I feel completely out of place because all the headlines are saying there are going to be world leaders and presidents."

RNLI lifeboat volunteer Guy Addington, 44, from Kent, told of the "unbelievable honour and massive privilege" of attending Her Majesty's solemn ceremony. Mr Addington has been part of teams that have aided 378 people and saved 13 lives. He said of the invite: "It's the most amazing, most surreal thing that has happened to me. I'm in the amazing position to be able to offer condolences not just from me personally, but from the RNLI and to say a final farewell to somebody who has become a really valued member of the RNLI family."

Mr Addington also met the late Queen in 2011 during her visit to Margate lifeboat station. He revealed: "It was clear as soon as Her Majesty arrived at the station that [she was] really keen to meet all of us individually.

"She had a really strong knack of putting you at ease. It was really like chatting with your grandma."

Also going is Ella Marks, 88, who got an MBE this year for volunteering on the Ealing Talking Newspaper – and who attended George VI's Coronation in 1937 on her dad's shoulders as a young child. But she remembers more clearly sleeping out overnight by the side of the Ritz – close to Buckingham Palace – 16 years later for Queen Elizabeth II's own Coronation.

She said: "It was absolutely amazing. I had also been in the Mall for George VI's funeral and watched the slow procession of the gun carriage."

Ms Marks said she was "honoured" to have received an invitation, adding: "It's difficult. I shall treasure the memories and pass it on to my children, grandchildren as a memory."

Honoured...clockwise from left, Ella Marks, Natalie Querioz, Barbara Crellin and Pranav Bhanot

Killing Eve star Sandra has role in procession

By **Mark Reynolds**

AWARD-WINNING Killing Eve star Sandra Oh will attend the state funeral of the Queen on Monday... as part of Canada's delegation.

The Grey's Anatomy actress, 51, will take part in a procession of national honours.

Born in Ottawa to Korean parents, she will join the delegation as a member of the Order of Canada, alongside ex-Olympic swimmer Mark Tewksbury and musical artist Gregory Charles.

Sandra was granted the honour in June, after her Killing Eve TV role, opposite Jodie Comer, boosted her global profile.

Canadian icon...Sandra Oh

Memory... Ms Ardern with Queen in 2018

Truss due to meet

By **Martyn Brown**
Deputy Political Editor

LIZ Truss will today hold private talks with the premiers of Australia and New Zealand, No 10 has confirmed.

The Prime Minister will meet with Anthony Albanese and Jacinda Ardern at the Government's Chevening country residence in Kent.

Australia's Mr Albanese and New Zealand PM Ms Ardern are in the UK for the Queen's funeral on Monday.

On Sunday, Ms Truss will meet US President Joe Biden, Irish Taoiseach Micheál Martin, Canadian PM Justin Trudeau and Polish President Andrzej Duda, at Downing Street. But further meetings with other world leaders are on the cards.

Ms Ardern will also have an audience with the King and the Prince of Wales before Monday's state funeral.

After arriving in the UK, she said she will "share the sorrow" of New Zealanders with the new monarch.

Ms Ardern said: "At the end of the day, although this is a period of transition for him, he has also lost his beloved mother. For us and New Zealand, that's first and foremost. I'll simply share the sorrow that New Zealand has

royals and presidents

Pictures: GUY ADDINGTON, PA, GETTY, REUTERS

Abbey invite... Robert Lodge MBE, left, and lifeboat volunteer Guy Addington, right and, inset, meeting Queen in 2011

'The honour of our lives' to march for the late monarch say VC recipients

By **Chris Riches**

HEROES who were awarded the Victoria and George Crosses say they are "humbled and honoured" to be involved in the procession at the Queen's state funeral.

The VC and GC Association said 17 of the 23 living recipients will attend the service, including one from New Zealand and four from Australia.

Seven will be involved in the procession of the orders of chivalry, including Colour Sergeant Johnson Beharry VC, who was awarded Britain's highest military honour for twice saving colleagues while under fire in Iraq.

C/Sgt Beharry, 43, of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, said: "I am deeply saddened at the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

"She was an extraordinary role model and an inspiration to many.

"In every engagement I had with her she showed great compassion, humility and pure warmth.

"I feel very humble and honoured and fortunate to be included in her funeral procession."

The VC is the highest decoration of military valour in the honours system. The GC is the highest non-operational gallantry award.

Those representing the George Cross are Jim Beaton, Tony Gledhill and Major Peter Norton.

Mr Beaton, 79, was awarded the George Cross for helping to foil a gunman's attempted kidnap of Princess Anne in 1974.

He was shot three times protecting the late monarch's daughter. Mr Beaton said: "It was a privilege to work for Her Majesty. I have many very fond memories."

Mr Gledhill, 84, is a former police officer who received the GC in May 1967 for an act of bravery pursuing a recklessly driven car containing five armed criminals in Deptford.

Inspired by Queen ...C/Sgt Beharry

He said: "I'm a royalist so it will be an honour to be involved in the procession."

Major Norton, 59, chairman of the VC and GC Association, said: "Queen Elizabeth II was the boss and I enjoyed every single year in her service.

"Being awarded the George Cross was the greatest of honours and it was a privilege and joy to have met her."

Major Norton was given the honour in 2006 after checking for an improvised explosive device near Baghdad, leading to the loss of his left leg and severe injuries to his right, back, abdomen and arm.

Bill (Willie) Apiata VC, 50, will represent the Victoria Cross for New Zealand on Monday and walk alongside Mark Donaldson VC, 43, from Australia. Keith Payne VC, 89, is also representing Australia.

Valour...from left, Jim Beaton, Tony Gledhill and Major Peter Norton

visiting leaders

and pass on our deepest condolences." Ms Ardern, who yesterday attended the Queen's lying-in-state at Westminster Hall, also confirmed that she will meet with Ms Truss.

The visiting PM said the Queen's death and new King will be the "focus of conversation" when the two leaders meet.

She said they will also likely discuss the war in Ukraine and the UK's free trade agreement with New Zealand.

Ms Ardern added: "I am sure we will also transact our relationship as well, but it is all within the context of the week of mourning that the UK is currently in."

Meeting Prince William will be an opportunity to repay his support of New Zealand in 2019, when the royal flew to the country following the Christchurch massacre, Ms Ardern said.

She added: "He's been there for us in our times of grief and so this is a time for us to be there for him."

Ms Ardern had met the Queen at Buckingham Palace in 2018.

Ukraine's first lady is jetting in from warzone

By **Martyn Brown**

UKRAINIAN President Volodymyr Zelensky's wife will fly to the UK this weekend to attend the Queen's state funeral.

First Lady Olena Zelenska, 44, will join around 500 world leaders and dignitaries at Westminster Abbey on Monday.

It is believed the mother of two's husband will remain in Kyiv as his country continues to battle Vladimir Putin's invading forces.

The Russian despot, who has previously had an audience with the Queen, is not invited, despite offering his condolences to the Royal Family last week.

Stepping in...Olena Zelenska

Queen's 'second daughter' will be a rock for Charles

Help...Sophie looks out for Princess Anne during mourning for the Queen

By **Mark Reynolds**

WITH her "never put a foot wrong" reputation and understated yet highly efficient persona, Sophie Wessex became a firm favourite with the late Queen.

Such was Her Majesty's affection for her daughter-in-law, sources close to the royal household claim that she was seen by the monarch as a "second daughter".

And just days after the Queen's passing, Sophie is already playing a much more significant role within the Royal Family.

The wife of Prince Edward has become what many other royals have found it so difficult to be – both reassuringly normal and 100 per cent reliable.

Her skills as a social lubricant between certain warring members of the family were quickly on show after the Queen died.

Royal commentators pointed out how Sophie, 57, naturally acted as "a bridge" between the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of Sussex at Westminster Hall at the lying in state, as relations between the pair are known to have become strained.

Affable Sophie was left to do the chit-chat with Meghan and clearly had no problem fulfilling that role.

It is this seemingly innate ability to do the right thing that has seen her kudos rise within The Firm for a number of years.

The conscientious Countess was also this week seen shedding tears as she examined the floral tributes left for the Queen at Balmoral, her clothes and make up "just so" and her skill at dealing with the public very much to the fore.

She was later pictured on a visit to Manchester with her husband, tenderly consoling a grieving boy who was holding a teddy bear. It is this assured and caring nature, increasingly loved by the late monarch, that is now set to see Sophie continue in the role as a vital rock for King Charles and his Queen Consort, Camilla.

Sources tell of one particularly revealing example of her exemplary behaviour, reflecting her perfect suitability for her royal role – one which is now expected to grow in significance in the aftermath of the Queen's death at the age of 96.

When the Duke and Duchess of Sussex's son Archie arrived in 2019, there was just one member of the Royal Family who wasted no time in going to Frogmore Cottage in Windsor Great Park to see the happy parents and their newborn.

Ignoring the usual protocols, numerous royal staff phone calls and typical organisation, the visitor was not Prince William, Prince Charles or even the Queen herself.

Instead the first member of the Royal Family to greet the arrival was the Countess of Wessex – not even a blood relation, but Harry's aunt by marriage.

Those close to the royal household said that the gesture was typical of the woman whose stature within the Royal Family has risen and risen over the years.

One source explained: "She did the right thing. She got in the car and went over. She has got the empathy and warmth that maybe people who grew up in that family don't naturally have. Normal people would think: this is what you do. You go; you make sure the new mum is OK and see the baby."

Sophie married Edward, 58, on June 19 1999 in St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle. But her initial entry into the family was not without its hiccups.

Link...Sophie rides in the cortege to Westminster Hall alongside the Duchess of Sussex

Indeed, she was seen by many observers to have suffered a difficult start.

Both she and Edward had tried to balance professional careers alongside their roles as working members of the Royal Family: she was a public relations executive, he had a job as a television producer.

But in 2001, Sophie was infamously caught up in a tabloid newspaper sting when a News of the World reporter recorded her being indiscreet about senior politicians and members of the Royal Family.

Edward was also further criticised for trying to cash in on his royal status in commercial ventures. As the fallout settled, the couple both wound down their business interests and devoted themselves to royal duties.

While neither has ever looked back, Sophie in particular has taken to her full-time royal role with vigour, professionalism and an ever-present smile.

It is this reliability and reassured performance that was said to have further

Pictures: REX/SHUTTERSTOCK, PA

Safe hands ...Sophie on Manchester visit, right, and above, comforting young royal fan; with Kate at the lying in state, left; and supporting husband Prince Edward as they read messages from public, below

endeared her to the late Queen. She has been praised for her work on preventable blindness and on sexual violence in war, and has spoken out about her own menopause experiences as she called for an end to the taboo surrounding women's health.

Mark Foster-Brown, a friend who was at Cambridge University with Prince Edward and for 20 years ran the couple's charitable foundation, the Wessex Youth Trust, said that Sophie could also now provide crucial support for Kate.

He added: "The line of communication between the Countess of Wessex and the Princess of Wales is incredibly important. It is very valuable to both of them.

"I hope the Princess of Wales will be able to rely on good advice and female intuition and understanding."

He added: "Sophie is incredibly empathetic. If you are a supporter of the Royal Family, you would hope that that would be a key relationship."

Born in Oxford to sales director father Christopher and charity worker mother Mary, Sophie grew up in Brenchley, Kent, and attended West Kent College, training as a secretary.

She subsequently went on to work in public relations, representing firms across the UK, Switzerland and Australia before opening her own agency, RJH Public Relations in 1996.

She met Prince Edward in 1987 while working for Capital Radio and they began dating in 1993. Their engagement was announced in January 1999.

More than 20 years on, Sophie continues to grow into her role within the Royal fold.

But she now faces what is likely to be one of her biggest-ever tests.

In two days' time she supports her husband at the state funeral of his mother, the Queen – who regarded the Countess as that adored "second daughter" she never had.

'No one has worked harder to highlight environmental issues than our new King'

Tony Juniper
Environmentalist and adviser to Charles

THESE days it is taken for granted that environmental challenges are serious and urgent.

Disappearing wildlife, polluted rivers, lack of water, floods and dirty air are among the pressures that blight the world and lives.

Fifty years ago, these subjects were far less known about, and far less was being done to fix them. No one has worked harder to bring about the present awareness and action than our new King.

It has been my privilege to have played some small part in helping him on this long journey.

While he was Prince of Wales I assisted King Charles in writing two books, worked as an environmental adviser and helped with some of his initiatives, including those focused on saving the rainforests and encouraging businesses to do more for the environment.

I have learnt so much from what he has been thinking, including through helping to write his 2010 book Harmony.

Wisdom

This was much more than an environmental book. It is a unified world view, derived of a vast body of reading, conversation with experts, personal experience and his wide travels across the world. In that book is powerful wisdom, including reflections on how our world is on a dangerous path, in large part because we have lost sight of the fundamental extent to which our civilization depends on a healthy planet.

His message was the more we destroy nature, then the more we imperil the welfare of people.

Charles's ideas increasingly pushed against the once mainstream view that we must tolerate the progressive destruction of nature to fuel economic growth.

The belief that it is necessary to cut down more forests, destroy soils, poison the sea and drive extinctions to create wealth and jobs was, he said, a disastrous misconception.

What we should do instead, he argued, is to foster the recovery of the natural world so as to secure our economic future. As crops wither in extreme heat, entire countries are devastated by storms and reservoirs run dry due to drought, we are seeing the consequences of what he was getting at. His predictions that economic growth, food security and water security were at risk as a result of environmental degradation are very real.

The fact these issues are finally getting onto the agenda is in large part down to his many decades tirelessly battling away as Prince of Wales, seeking to make a difference on these massive questions.

He brought together many different organisations and experts to consider what they might do in partnership to solve challenges, such as over-fishing, plastic in the sea or ensuring a sustainable food supply.

He set up a wide range of charities and supported hundreds more as their patron.

No one knows how he will work on these issues now that he has acceded to the throne, but whatever he is able to do I have every hope that the baton he carried as Prince of Wales will also be handed to the new holder of that position.

In June during Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, Prince William gave a powerful speech focused on the very same subjects for which our new King is so well known.

The sense of urgency our King has attached to these questions for so long was never more well placed. I hope his legacy will drive a redoubling of effort toward the adoption of solutions.

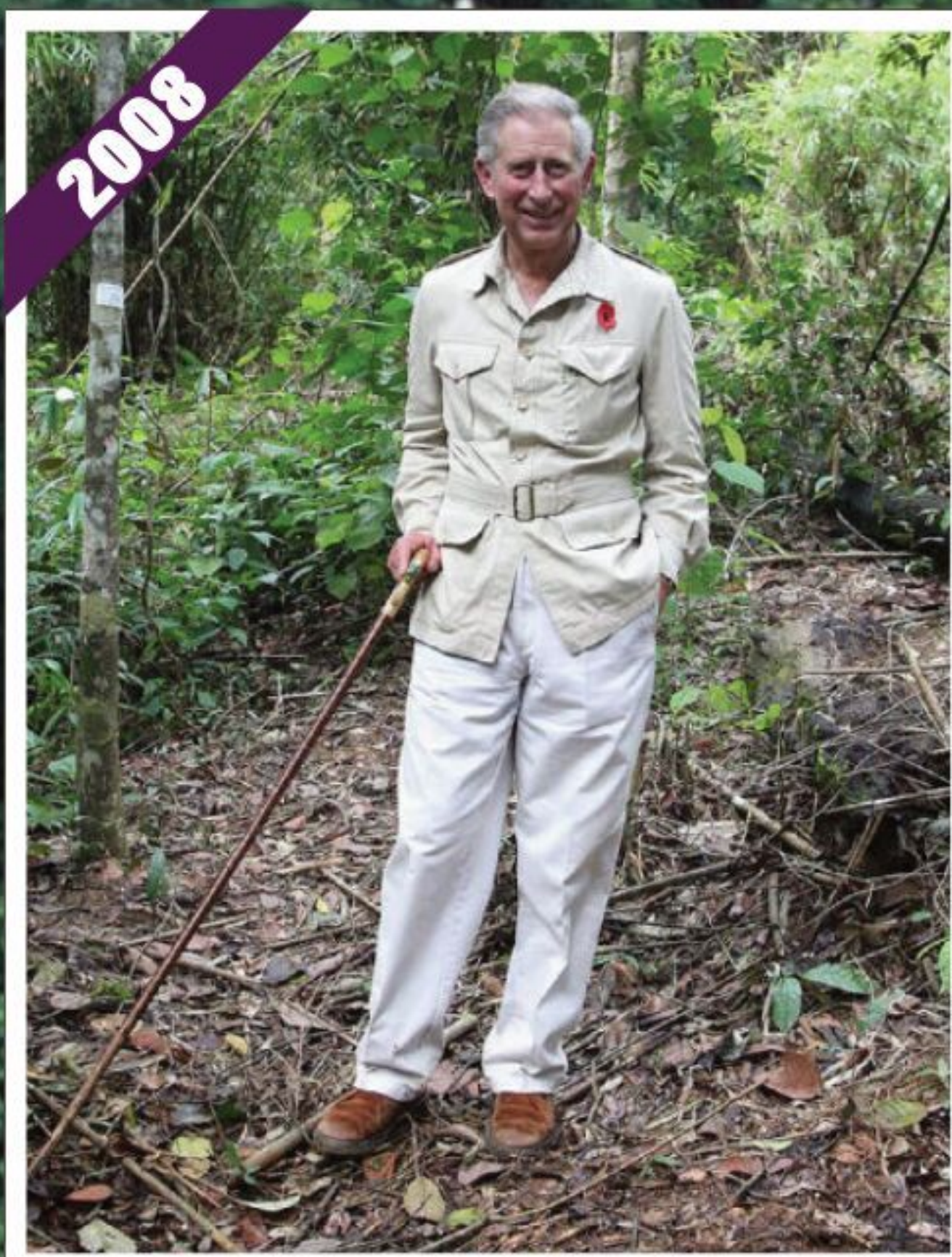
Hammering home the message...Charles lays a hedge at his organic Gloucestershire Home Farm where 20 miles of hedgerows have been planted in 35 years. Below, inspecting cattle with William

Nature's allies... Charles and adviser Tony Juniper CBE

Pictures: CHRIS JACKSON, TIM GRAHAM PHOTO LIBRARY VIA GETTY IMAGES

2008

2017

1990

Building bridges ...in a Cameroon rainforest, left, warning against deforestation in Indonesia, top, and, above, in a reservoir park in Singapore

How Charles was years ahead with his championing of green concerns

By **Steph Spyro**
Environment Editor

KING Charles spent at least five decades championing the environment while Prince of Wales.

As an outspoken advocate for climate and biodiversity, the new King has kept the desire to protect the planet for future generations close to his heart.

In 1970, aged 21, he first spoke to the public about his concerns.

He told the Countryside Steering Committee for Wales about the "growing menace of oil pollution at sea," spoke of chemicals being discharged into rivers and called attention to the gases being "pumped out by endless cars and aeroplanes".

Haven

Since then, he has become a leading environmentalist who is respected in the UK and around the world.

He has backed charities, championed campaign groups and become personally involved in conversations with world leaders about the climate crisis.

In the 1980s, the King began transforming his estate in Gloucestershire into a haven for organic farming.

The gardens at Highgrove House are world renowned for their advancements in sustainability and biodiversity.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow last year, he urged world leaders to work together to save the planet. He said: "I can only urge you, as the world's decision-makers, to find practical ways of overcoming differences so we can all get down to work, together, to rescue this precious planet and save the threatened future of our young people."

In 2018, the former Prince of Wales announced a global call to action to save coral reefs from complete global collapse.

He said: "There can be no doubt that we are at a critical tipping point, where we will either ensure or fatally compromise our ability to safeguard the world's coral reefs and the species that will support future generations of humans and countless other species."

Earlier this year, he laid out a five point plan to protect at least 30 per cent of the ocean by 2030, increasing this to 50 per cent by 2050.

His championing of environmental causes continued this week when the King asked for the Queen's Green Canopy initiative to be extended into the spring next year to allow people to turn it into a memorial for his mother.

The canopy was set up to get people to "plant a tree for the Jubilee" with tens of thousands of saplings settled into the soil to provide a lasting legacy for the reign of Elizabeth II.

Climate warning... the King at UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow last year

United Nations Climate Change

UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE UK 2021

By **Carole Malone**
Express columnist

I ALWAYS thought I knew what patriotism meant. But I didn't, until the death of Elizabeth R. I'd believed it was a concept about loyalty and allegiance to a country. But now I see that for most of us it's always been about loyalty and allegiance to one woman who, whether we realised it or not, was the living, breathing embodiment of it.

Our Queen was the ultimate patriot – the reason so many of us loved and felt proud of our country.

I only realised it this week seeing her coffin lying in state in Westminster Hall – that ancient meeting place where, down the decades, our Queen has stood and addressed governments and the British people on grand state occasions.

Now, she's back there for one final time and seeing her reminded me that patriotism is what unites us in times of crisis.

Elizabeth has done that – faultlessly – for seven decades.

So, maybe for us patriotism isn't about a concept – it's about the woman lying in that coffin. And it's what makes the loss of her so hellish. Without her, it feels like our sense of identity is uncertain. Who are we? How will the world see us without her?

Ask yourself today – has there ever been a time when you've felt prouder of your country than you do right now?

I look at us all, at our outpouring of love for her, at the lengths people are going to see her for one last time, at the respect in which she's held, and I'm blown away with pride for the British people.

How patriotic did you feel seeing her coffin being carried down The Mall on that gun-carriage flanked by those beauteous soldiers with their ramrod-straight backs, their spotless, colourful uniforms, shoes shining like glass, sporting bearskins and plumes, and never a misstep on that long walk to Westminster Hall?

Didn't you know then that no country on earth could have pulled that off the way we did – and all for the woman who for 70 years has been the beating heart of our patriotism.

I can't remember a time when this little nation felt more united. And that's because of our Queen who in life – but especially in death – has brought us together in a way I didn't think possible. And I keep asking myself: is it about love for her or love for our country or are the two so inextricably intertwined they're impossible to separate and represent the same thing – patriotism?

And I think the answer to that is, "Yes". I watched people of every colour, every age, every creed, every class queue for endless hours to say goodbye.

I watched them file into that grand hall with its flagstone staircases and edge slowly towards her coffin where the sad, proud soldiers who had guarded her in life now stood silently, protecting her in death.

Some people bowed their heads, others curtseyed, some said a prayer, others just crumpled and wept. Some even brought the ashes of their loved ones so they too could say a symbolic goodbye.

Watching those people desperate to be in her presence one last time I realised it wasn't just because they're proud of her and wanted to pay their respects. It was more than that. It was because she represented something much bigger than just a title or an institution. She was – is – the embodiment of what we feel about ourselves as a nation. And THAT'S patriotism.

I see it now as her coffin rests in that great hall atop of which sits the Orb and Sceptre and the Imperial State Crown, its 3,000 diamonds glittering in the autumn sunshine that streams through the hall's vast arched windows.

I see that Elizabeth was the ultimate patriot and, until nine days ago, she was still the beating heart of it in Britain. And not even death has dimmed her power to unite.

A philosopher much cleverer than me once said: "Patriotism consists of four main components – a special affection towards one's country, defining him or herself through his or her country, being interested in the country's welfare and sacrificing for the sake of the country's welfare"

If that isn't the perfect description of Elizabeth, I don't know what is. This was a woman who for 70 years strode the four corners of the globe like a colossus trumpeting the very best of Britain.

'Elizabeth was the ultimate patriot; the reason so many of us loved and felt proud of our country'

AND it's why it isn't just us here who are mourning her – the rest of the world is too. I've always known how important she was to us but I didn't understand how the "Elizabeth Effect" had impacted people everywhere.

She was undoubtedly "ours" but her reach was global. And that makes me even more proud because she created patriots all over the world.

France's President Emmanuel Macron, who has no truck with our prime ministers or government, encapsulated it when he said: "She was YOUR queen but to us she was THE Queen."

And she was. Utter the words The Queen and the world knew you were talking about Elizabeth. It's why her funeral is set to smash all records and become the most watched broadcast of all time.

The world wants to say goodbye.

And a word of warning here for those seeking to separate our united nation. I think now their Machiavellian task will be impossible. The Sturgeons, the Blackfords, the Salmonds of this world had better "Haud their wheesht" (translation from Scottish meaning "SHUT UP") for a while because Elizabeth's final act has been to unite a country she knew some were trying to pull asunder.

Scottish people have been reminded this week – although I'm in no doubt they already knew – how much the Queen loved

UNITED IN GRIEF: A constant stream of people show their love and respect for the late Queen as she lies in state at Westminster Hall

Picture: ODD ANDERSEN/PA WIRE

Elizabeth wasn't just a great Queen, she was the greatest

Scotland. How she felt Balmoral was her home. How every summer she retreated there to escape the pomp and pageantry of royal life in London.

And in recent years she'd made it clear how much she wanted the union to stay together.

David Cameron even said she'd "purred with happiness" when he told her Scotland had voted against independence.

And let's not forget – she chose to spend her last days in Scotland and as a nation that now feels more united than it has for decades, it's fitting that Scotland has played such a big role in this period of national mourning.

Elizabeth was Queen to us all. And Nicola Sturgeon forgets that at her peril. She must have seen the tens of thousands who lined the route from Balmoral to Holyrood and realised these are people who love the Queen, their country AND the union. And when she restarts her campaign to smash it, she needs to remember this week and know that her dream of independence is at odds with what great swathes of the Scottish people want.

SHE ALSO needs to remember it's patriotism that brings people together and makes for a strong nation. And it's patriotism NOT nationalism that will define Scotland's future.

But back to Elizabeth.

I don't know about you, but for me there's a comfort in knowing she's still with us, that we have her for a couple more days before she leaves us to spend eternity with her beloved Philip and her parents King George VI, the Queen Mother and her sister Margaret, all of whom are entombed at her father's memorial chapel in Windsor.

And, yes, I know that Charles is the new monarch, the wearer of the crown, but Elizabeth will forever be the biggest jewel in that crown.

Whoever wears it in the years to come will never burrow their way into our hearts and minds the way she has. I know Charles – and William when his time comes – will be good kings. But even they would be the first to accept that Elizabeth transcended the word "good".

Her funeral on Monday isn't just the end of a chapter in our history. It's the end of an era – the second, and the MOST magnificent Elizabethan era – which started with a beautiful young woman who, with trembling voice, promised to devote her whole life to our service. And she did – to her dying breath.

'In life – but especially in death – the Queen has brought us together in a way I didn't think possible'

How can history ever do justice to such a woman who for 70 years has been this nation's soul, its moral compass, its grandmother? Dusty tomes will document her as a good and popular queen but they will never truly be able to encapsulate the essence of her.

Only those of us who have lived in her time can properly understand that. Only we can testify to the fact that she wasn't just a great Queen – she was the greatest.

And for that, at least, we must be grateful…

Derby glory... one triumph that eluded Her Majesty

Alas, the Monarch never tasted victory in the Epsom flat race but, speaking ahead of a documentary on his storied 150-year-old stables, trainer Andrew Balding expresses the hope her amazing legacy will endure

EXCLUSIVE
By Christine Smith

AS TRAINER to the Queen's beloved racehorses over nearly two decades, Andrew Balding says he will "cherish forever" the incredible trust she placed in him to work together on her biggest passion describing it as "an absolute honour" as he pays a poignant tribute to the nation's longest serving monarch.

Readily admitting she has left a "huge void" at Park House Stables, Kingsclere, near Newbury, Berkshire, which houses 10 of her horses, Andrew says she was not only incredibly knowledgeable about racing but also highly competitive.

Brother to TV's Clare Balding, Andrew – whose grandfather, father and uncle also trained the Queen's horses before him – smiles as he reveals her final racing ambition, sadly unfulfilled, was to win the Epsom Derby.

"We were hugely privileged as a family to have trained the Queen's horses," says Andrew as he reflects on his time working with her. "My grandad trained the Queen's horses, so did my uncle, my dad and me… it's something I will cherish forever.

"She has left a huge void and it will take a good while to come to terms with the fact that someone we had the absolute joy and privilege of speaking to and sharing her hobby – which is our job essentially – is no longer here.

"I did speak with her regularly and we spoke before each run. She had 10 horses with me and she was very passionate about racing and very knowledgeable.

"She was as competitive as anyone and she had raced horses since the 50s – but she never won the Derby. That was her absolute number one ambition."

Understandably keen to keep his many conversations with the Queen private, he adds: "I have got plenty of anecdotes that I want to keep in private but in general, what I would say is she was every bit as lovely as you would expect her to be. People ask me, 'What's the Queen like?' and I always say she was exactly what you would like her to be. Like many others who have expressed this, she also had a fantastic sense of humour."

He says it is still too raw to even contemplate how they will pay their own personal tribute to the Queen, but he hopes to be able to continue the long-lasting relationship his stables have enjoyed with the Royal Family over many decades.

"Everything is on hold at the moment", adds Andrew. "But we would love to carry on her legacy and her passion. She bred these horses; she had some hand in creating them and we would love to carry on her amazing work."

Andrew is chatting today ahead of the forthcoming release of a new fly-on-the-wall Prime Video documentary series, Horsepower, which follows the trials and tribulations of his life as a horse trainer for around 60 or so clients, who as well as the Queen include Sir Alex Ferguson.

He hopes the new documentary series will attract non-race lovers to the sport and show that it is not simply for an elite handful.

"We want to make racing accessible to everyone," he explains. "There can be that feeling of 'I can't access racing because it's for the elite' but that is not the case. At Kingsclere, my family business, it is very much an enormous team game and I really hope people watching will see that."

ONE member who is very much part of the team is his elder sister, Clare, who whilst she doesn't help on a day-to-day basis still makes visits most weekends. She is, he says, "part of the furniture".

"Clare visits most weekends and she is part of the furniture," adds Andrew. "She is always there [for us] and always a supporter."

Recalling many happy times together growing up, he jokes he would always "play the games she told me to play".

"I would have to do whatever she told me to do and I played the games she told me to!" says Andrew, laughing as he does.

"We are competitive when it comes to a game of golf or tennis but we do two different things and so we can support each other. We are both happy for each other's success and I am very proud of her."

Like his sister, Andrew, 49, is self-deprecating, fun and very engaging. His enthusiasm is infectious and it's easy to see why the Queen

FAMILY TIES: Andrew is interviewed by TV presenter sister Clare

HISTORY MAN: Andrew and his wife Anna-Lisa, right, and with father Ian, above, in whose footsteps he is following

Pictures: HUGH ROUTLEDGE, DAVID HARTLEY, NICK HARVEY, COLORSPORT, ALAMY, PA

TOP TEAM: Queen chats to trainer Andrew Balding and jockey David Probert, resplendent in the monarch's racing colours of scarlet and purple with gold braid, at Newbury, Berks, in 2014

entrusted him with her own horses so much. Growing up at Kingsclere where his father, Ian, successfully trained the Epsom Derby champion, Mill Reef, in 1971, he knew from an early age he wanted to follow in his dad's footsteps.

Taking over from his dad in 2003, he has since gone on to enjoy considerable global success with wins in Dubai, Hong Kong, Australia and at home in races such as last year's Coronation Stakes.

He also works with some of the biggest jockeys in the business, including Frankie Dettori. "I grew up around it all and it is very difficult not to get absorbed in it," he says. "I've never for one minute regretted it."

The one race that has, however, eluded him so far is the Derby, an ambition he would still love to fulfil like his beloved dad and just as the Queen dreamed of doing so.

"I would love to win the Derby," he admits. "And we were second again this year, so we are getting closer. But it only happens once a year and you don't get many horses good enough to even run in it."

Rising every morning at 6.30am and going to bed "straight after the 10 o'clock news", Andrew readily admits he lives and breathes the sport.

His wife, Anna-Lisa, whom he tied the knot with in 2005 and with whom he shares two sons and a daughter, would happily testify to this.

She tells the documentary that Andrew loves pouring over the racing calendar fixture as soon as it is published.

"What I love about racing is the uncertainty," he explains. "No one wants to finish at the back and it doesn't matter if you are the Queen of England, it's every man or woman for themselves. You can't buy success and there is no exact formula.

"If you go to a performance of Shakespeare you know how Hamlet ends. With racing, it's an ever changing plot."

And it's this unpredictability, adds Andrew, that makes the lows equally tough to overcome. "One minute you are up and another you can be at the bottom" he admits. "Lows come with sport and you have to take the punches.

"The thing with horse racing though is it doesn't matter what your history [of previous wins] is. You can't fall asleep at the wheel."

ROARING with laughter as he goes on to insist that despite the enormous pressure he doesn't go to bed dreaming about horse racing, the ardent Southampton FC supporter says he gets a lot of pleasure from watching his three children play sport.

He doesn't, however, ride horses anymore.

"I used to when I was younger but I haven't ridden for 20 years," he explains.

"I have so much that is going on around me now but if someone does fall off, at least I can run and catch their horse!"

His two sons, Jonno and Toby, are already showing signs of following in his footsteps. "My two boys are very knowledgeable," Andrew says, beaming as he does. "They are light years ahead of where I was at the same age and I would be very surprised if they don't want to be involved."

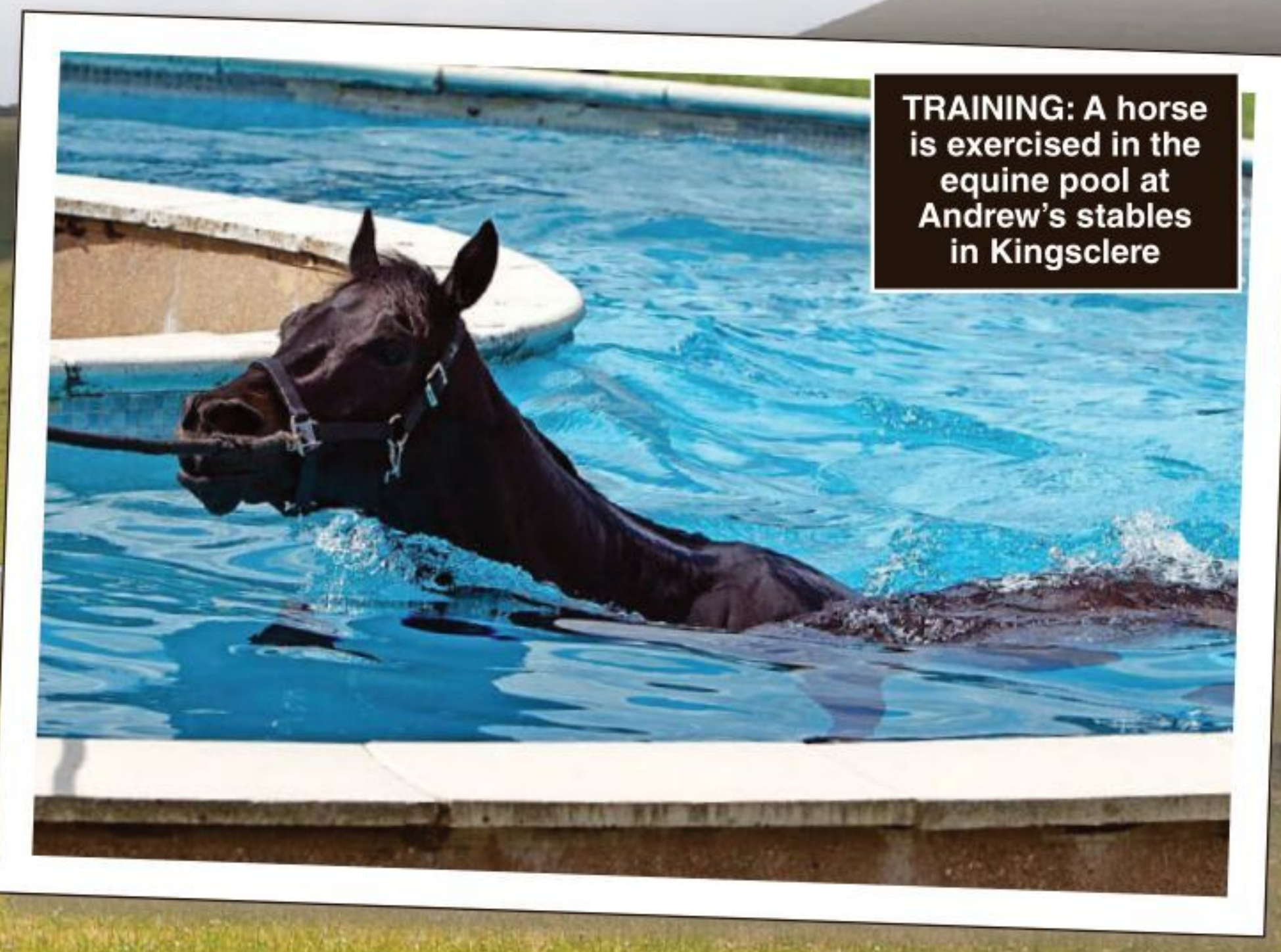
None of his incredible racing success, that has also seen him triumph at Royal Ascot, would be possible without his wife, Anna-Lisa. Working closely together running the family business, he puts "tolerance" down as the secret of their very happy marriage.

Agreeing he does feel very lucky to have met a woman as passionate about racing as he is, Andrew confides: "The input she has put in is enormous and a fair amount of tolerance is what makes it [our marriage] work!"

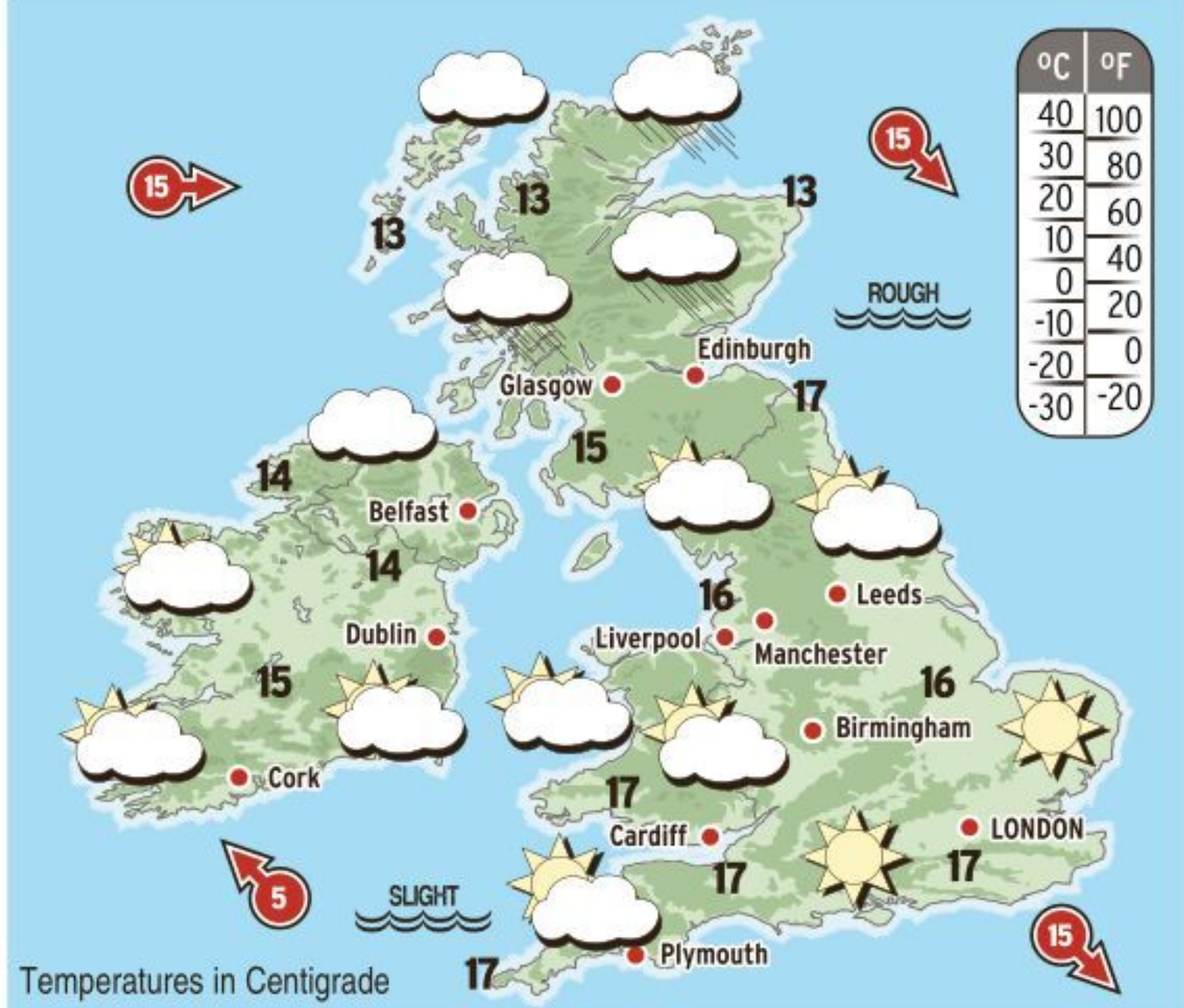
Aside from winning the Derby, would Andrew, who turns 50 this year, like to follow Clare's footsteps and move into TV?

"Oh gosh no, this Prime Video series is a one off and I've no interest in doing other TV," he replies. "It's been an absolute pleasure to do this but there are other yards and other people out there too."

He smiles and then returning to the Queen's absolute passion for horses, he sums up her love for the animals by adding: "We are spoilt in so many ways to be surrounded by these beautiful creatures first and foremost. Nobody could work in racing if they didn't love animals and horses. I feel very lucky."

● *Horsepower will be available to stream on Prime Video on Friday*

TRAINING: A horse is exercised in the equine pool at Andrew's stables in Kingsclere

WEATHER FORECAST

Temperatures in Centigrade

Today's summary: Mainly dry with variable cloud

North West: A dry day with spells of sunshine and patchy cloud. Moderate north-westerly winds. High 15C (59F).

Northern Ireland: Mainly dry with occasional sunshine but also a lot of cloud. Gentle north-westerly winds. High 14C (57F).

Wales: Dry and bright with sunny spells and variable cloud cover. Gentle north-westerly winds. High 17C (63F).

Midlands: Dry with sunshine although more in the way of cloud later. Gentle north-westerly winds. High 16C (61F).

North East/Yorks: Dry and fine with variable amounts of sunshine. Gentle north-westerly winds. High 16C (61F).

Scotland: Variable cloud and a chance of showers developing. Gentle to brisk north-westerly winds. High 16C (61F).

East Anglia: The chance of a shower at first, but sunny spells too. Fresh north-westerly winds. High 16C (61F).

London/South East: A dry and fine day with plenty of autumn sunshine. Gentle north-westerly winds. High 18C (64F).

South: Dry with good spells of sunshine and only a little cloud. Gentle north-westerly winds. High 17C (63F).

South West: Dry with long sunny periods and only a few patches of cloud. Gentle north-westerly winds. High 18C (64F).

Channel Isles: Fine and dry with long periods of autumn sunshine expected. Gentle northerly winds. High 16C (61F).

Sea: North Sea: Moderate. Irish Sea: Moderate. Channel: Moderate.

UK OUTLOOK TOMORROW: More in the way of cloud cover around tomorrow and a chance of showers although most areas will remain dry. Breezy for North Sea coastal areas.

SIX-DAY FORECAST Temperatures in Centigrade

	SUN min	SUN max	MON min	MON max	TUE min	TUE max	WED min	WED max	THU min	THU max	FRI min	FRI max
London	10	18	11	18	11	20	12	20	12	20	10	19
Belfast	10	16	12	17	12	17	13	17	9	16	9	15
Birmingham	8	16	10	17	11	18	12	19	10	18	8	17
Cardiff	8	19	10	18	11	19	12	19	11	18	10	18
Glasgow	9	16	12	16	12	17	14	17	10	16	9	15
Manchester	9	15	10	17	11	18	12	18	11	17	9	16
Newcastle	8	14	9	15	10	17	11	18	9	17	9	17
Norwich	10	15	9	16	11	18	12	20	12	20	11	18
Plymouth	9	18	10	19	12	19	14	18	13	18	12	18

Britain yesterday

24 hours to 5pm	SUN (hrs)	RAIN (ins)	TEMP (min)	TEMP (max)
Aberdeen	4.9	0.02	8	13
Aberporth	7.1	0.01	12	14
Alnwick	7.2	0.12	8	13
Belfast	11.3	0.01	7	15
Birmingham	9.2	0.00	9	16
B'mouth	9.2	0.00	6	18
Bristol	9.0	0.00	10	17
Cardiff	9.0	0.00	10	19
Durham	7.4	0.01	6	14
Edinburgh	6.3	0.01	6	14
Glasgow	11.2	0.00	4	16
Hull	6.5	0.00	9	14
Ipswich	8.2	0.06	8	15
Leeds	8.9	0.00	7	15
Lincoln	9.4	0.00	8	14
London	6.9	0.00	10	17
Manchester	9.8	0.01	7	15
Oxford	8.4	0.00	10	17
S'hampton	9.7	0.00	9	18
St Andrews	6.1	0.00	6	14

Moon, sun and tides

MOON rises: 10.14pm, sets: 3.07pm
SUN rises London: 6.38am, sets: 7.10pm
Manchester rises: 6.45am, sets: 7.20pm

New Moon 25 September

HIGH TIDE

London B'ge	(6.48am), (7.08pm)
Liverpool	(3.58am), (4.19pm)
Greenock	(5.24am), (5.41pm)
Dover	(4.09am), (4.27pm)

Britain Extremes: (24 hours to 2pm yesterday)
Warmest: Usk 18C (64F)
Coldest: Katesbridge 2C (36F)
Wettest: Aviemore 0.50in.
Sunniest: Glasgow/Bishopton 10.3hr.

Lighting-up times

Belfast	7.35pm-7.01am
Birmingham	7.18pm-6.46am
Bristol	7.20pm-6.49am
Glasgow	7.29pm-6.54am
London	7.10pm-6.40am
Manchester	7.20pm-6.47am
Newcastle	7.18pm-6.44am

Europe forecast

Today			Tomorrow		
Amsterdam	Showers	16C/61F	Amsterdam	Showers	16C/61F
Brussels	Showers	14C/57F	Brussels	Showers	14C/57F
Dublin	Fair	16C/61F	Dublin	Fair	16C/61F
Frankfurt	Showers	15C/59F	Frankfurt	Showers	14C/57F
Geneva	Fair	15C/59F	Geneva	Sunny	18C/64F
Lisbon	Sunny	29C/84F	Lisbon	Sunny	30C/86F
Madrid	Sunny	29C/84F	Madrid	Fair	27C/81F
Paris	Sunny	17C/63F	Paris	Fair	19C/66F
Rome	Sunny	26C/79F	Rome	Sunny	25C/77F

Around the world yesterday

		C	F
Amsterdam	Shwrs	12	54
Athens	Sunny	31	88
Barcelona	Fair	26	79
Berlin	Fair	15	59
Budapest	Fair	17	63
Cairo	Fair	28	82
Cape Town	Sunny	18	64
Casablanca	Sunny	25	77
Corfu	Sunny	28	82
Dublin	Fair	15	59
Dubrovnik	Thndr	21	70
Faro	Sunny	24	75
Florence	Fair	28	82
Gibraltar	Sunny	26	79
Guernsey	Sunny	16	61
Hong Kong	Fair	33	91
Istanbul	Sunny	27	81
Jersey	Fair	17	63
Larnaca	Sunny	31	88
Las Palmas	Fair	28	82
Los Angeles	Sunny	25	77
Luxor	Sunny	33	91
Malaga	Sunny	29	84
Mallorca	Fair	30	86
Malta	Sunny	30	86
Melbourne	Cloudy	17	63
Miami	Thndr	24	75
Moscow	Cloudy	14	57
Nairobi	Cloudy	22	72
New Delhi	Shwrs	25	77
New York	Sunny	21	70
Nice	Sunny	27	81
Nicosia	Sunny	34	93
Perth	Cloudy	18	64
Prague	Fair	14	57
Singapore	Fair	30	86
Stockholm	Cloudy	14	57
Sydney	Sunny	22	72
Tel Aviv	Sunny	31	88
Tenerife	Sunny	27	81
Toronto	Sunny	18	64
Tunis	Fair	33	91
Venice	Sunny	25	77
Vienna	Sunny	19	66
Warsaw	Fair	17	63

Supplied by **MeteoGroup**

Bill laid to rest as BBC pals mourn

By **Ellie Iorizzo**

BROADCASTERS including Sian Williams, Louise Minchin, Susanna Reid and Naga Munchetty were among those celebrating the life and legacy of Bill Turnbull at his funeral.

The ex-BBC Breakfast host died on August 31 aged 66 after fighting prostate cancer, following a 2017 diagnosis.

At the Holy Trinity church in Blythburgh, Suffolk, yesterday afternoon, Sian said she will remember Bill "with a smile".

Sian, who anchored BBC Breakfast with Bill for more than a decade, said: "He was a great bloke, he was great to work with, he was a great friend and you see that here with the number of people who wanted to express that."

Naga, who also worked with him on the show, said: "The audience was all that mattered and Bill never forgot that – he was a joy to sit beside."

Passionate beekeeper Bill's two sons and son-in-law were among the pallbearers carrying his oak coffin into the church.

Goodbye from us... Susanna and Sian. Inset, Louise and Naga. Below, Bill

Police officers stabbed in frenzied 6am attack

By **John Twomey**

A BRAVE policewoman suffered "massive" blood loss and a colleague was stabbed in the neck and chest, in a horrific knife attack yesterday.

The female PC was slashed in the arm after confronting a man who had been seen with a weapon.

He then turned on her male colleague who had chased him, stabbing him three times in the neck and once in the chest during a vicious struggle.

The savage attack happened in Shaftesbury Avenue, central London, at 6am, as people queued less than a mile away to pay their respects to the Queen. Other officers subdued the man using Tasers, pepper-style spray and a baton.

The male PC's wounds were "very serious" and the policewoman's injury could prove to be life-changing, the Metropolitan force said. Both were in a stable condition in hospital.

A man in his 20s was in custody last night. Hotel worker Arunas Ambrulevius, who saw the attack, said: "The police had got the knife out of his hand. It fell on the ground but then he grabbed it and went at them."

Taxi driver Youssef Boucetta, 27, who wrapped his jacket around the policewoman, said: She was screaming, 'I've been stabbed, I've been stabbed!'.

Met Police Commissioner Sir Mark Rowley and Home Secretary Suella Braverman praised the officers' bravery. Scotland Yard said the incident was not terror-related or linked to the Queen's death.

CORRECTIONS AND COMPLAINTS

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Picture: OLEKSANDR KHOMENKO/ REUTERS

Shocking... a Ukrainian serviceman walks among graves in a mass burial site in Izyum

Mass graves found near liberated Ukrainian city

By **Mark Reynolds**

UKRAINE President Volodymyr Zelensky yesterday accused Russia of perpetrating a horrific trail of death – after a mass burial site was uncovered in the newly retaken city of Izyum.

Authorities in the north-eastern city, recently freed from Russian occupation, said hundreds of bodies had been found.

Regional police head Volodymyr Tymoshko reported more than 400 Ukrainian corpses were thought to have been buried there.

Alluding to a growing number of such mass graves being uncovered in the wake of the ongoing Russian retreat, a disgusted President Zelensky said: "Russia leaves death everywhere."

Bombing

Similar grim discoveries were made earlier in the war in Bucha, near the capital Kyiv, and also near Mariupol, the key south-eastern Ukrainian port occupied by Russian troops.

Investigators in Izyum were last night trying to determine what happened to the victims. But initial accounts have suggested many may have died from bombing and a lack of access to healthcare.

There are also signs that some of the graves could belong to Ukrainian soldiers.

Mr Tymoshko said exhumations were starting in a bid to get a clearer picture of the number of victims in the city, which was under Russian occupation for more than five months. But in a televised address to his nation, President Zelensky said: "We want the world to know what is really happening and what the Russian occupation has led to. Bucha, Mariupol, now, unfortunately, Izyum."

Andriy Yermak, the head of President Zelensky's office, tweeted a photo of the alleged mass grave, saying that more information was expected over the weekend. In an accompanying caption, he wrote: "A mass burial was found in Izyum, Kharkiv region. Necessary procedures have already begun. All bodies will be exhumed and sent for forensic examination.

"Expect more information tomorrow. Russia is a murderer country. A state sponsor of terrorism."

Much of Izyum, visited by President Zelensky earlier this week, now lies in ruins after the Russian army beat a hasty retreat in the face of an ongoing Ukrainian counteroffensive. One local politician told reporters that up to 80 per cent of the town's infrastructure has been destroyed, and that bodies are still being discovered in the rubble.

Izyum and a number of other cities in the Kharkiv region were liberated earlier this month during a swift Ukrainian counter-attack.

The offensive appeared to have surprised Russian troops and left them unprepared to defend their positions. Ukraine claims it has identified more than 21,000 possible war crimes.

These include the killing of civilians and rape – all committed by Russian troops since Vladimir Putin ordered a full-scale invasion in February.

The US and more than 40 other countries, including the UK, have agreed to help coordinate the investigations into suspected war crimes in Ukraine.

The nations have signed a political declaration to work together.

PUTIN INCREASINGLY ISOLATED AFTER CHINA EXPRESSES 'CONCERNS' OVER WAR

By **Mark Reynolds**

CHINESE "concerns" over Russia's brutal invasion of Ukraine left Vladimir Putin looking ever more isolated on the world stage.

In his first face-to-face talks with President Xi Jinping since the war began in February, the Kremlin tyrant highlighted Beijing's uncertainty over the conflict.

But Putin also thanked China for its "balanced position".

And he warned US "attempts to create a unipolar world" would fail.

The meeting on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit in Uzbekistan yesterday comes as Russian troops have lost ground in parts of Ukraine amid a counteroffensive.

Mr Putin told Mr Xi he understood China's "questions and concern" over the war, adding: "During today's meeting, we will of course explain our position."

A Chinese government statement after the meeting notably failed to mention Ukraine. Instead, it said Russia and China would extend "strong mutual support" on core interests and called their partnership "as stable as mountains".

Beijing has chosen an ambiguous approach to the invasion, declining to condemn the conflict. But troops from both nations recently carried out joint exercises in Russia.

Under fire... Putin at talks yesterday

Grief of a daughter in despair

JONE OF the most moving aspects of this long, sad week, as the Queen was escorted on her final earthly journey from Balmoral to Westminster, has been her daughter's love.

During her mother's lifetime Princess Anne's image was as familiar to us as her brother Charles's, but while he was out front, she remained an unobtrusive pillar of strength in the background. In the era of celebrity royalty which began with Diana's marriage to Charles, when clothes and hairstyles and mixing with A-list stars became synonymous with royal glamour, we sort of forgot about Anne a little bit, sensibly clad, always on duty or horseback.

We didn't so much underestimate her – she was always formidably on top of her brief and forceful in her opinions (telling a photographer to "naff orff" was Anne in a nutshell) – as undervalue her.

A princess she may be, but her no-nonsense competence, her impatience with flummery, seemed daunting compared with the fluttery fairy-tale "Princess And The Pea" image that Diana and Fergie had brainwashed us into expecting.

Can you imagine Anne being unable to sleep because there was a pea under her mattress? The pea would be quaking in terror. But Anne's image has changed during this past painful week, when we've glimpsed into the mind of a woman who's not easily fazed, the Princess Royal rigorously carrying out her duty to accompany the Queen on her final journeys; what we've seen is a woman racked with grief. Her face, usually a mask of control, was a portrait of sorrow. The curtsy she made to her mother's coffin in Edinburgh made me cry.

I'm glad Anne was with her "dearest mother" for the last 24 hours of her life. For both of them the comfort must have been great. I believe she will treasure that time and take solace from knowing how good and constant a daughter she has been.

Our new King should honour his sister by making her a Counsellor of State, replacing Harry or Andrew. Come to think of it, he should replace them both. Anne, Edward and Sophie. Much, much better all round.

RI DON'T know about you, but I have been virtually speechless with admiration for our King during these last few days. I cannot think of anyone else in my lifetime who has so firmly seized destiny when their moment came and risen faultlessly to what, in this case, was the most challenging and testing of circumstances.

There's a line in Peter Morgan's award-winning film The Queen where the Queen Mother (Sylvia Syms) tells her eldest daughter (Helen Mirren): "You're the greatest asset this institution has... the problem will come when you leave."

Given decades of speculation about what sort of king Charles would make, and just how long it might be before he would be called to duty, it seemed like a reasonable piece of dialogue at the time. And the truth of the first half of that line still stands, unquestionably. But the second? It crumbled into dust the moment the King made the first of a series of absolutely pitch-perfect televised statements in the days following his mother's passing.

Just as a butterfly emerges from its chrysalis, fully formed and magnificent, so the former Prince of Wales has emerged as our King. It is he who is now "the greatest asset this institution has".

God save him.

Richard&Judy

BRITAIN'S BEST-LOVED HUSBAND AND WIFE TEAM REFLECT ON THE WEEK'S EVENTS EVERY SATURDAY IN YOUR DAILY EXPRESS

Pictures: GETTY

R SHE has been captured and immortalised in countless portraits during her life, and I suppose we all have our favourite image of Queen Elizabeth II. This is mine. Pietro Annigoni's painting of her, unveiled in 1955. It's a masterpiece. Just as she was.

In shrewd health till the very end

R BORIS Johnson revealed this week he was not just grief-stricken by the Queen's death, he was profoundly shocked by it because, in his words: "Her Majesty was absolutely on it" when he was with her at Balmoral barely 48 hours before she died.

"Bright and focused" was another of his descriptions of her during their last meeting.

After Johnson formally resigned his premiership he says the pair went on to have a detailed discussion of geopolitics. The Queen was, he says, completely across current world events.

One of the subjects they must have discussed was the dramatically shifting picture in Ukraine. One wonders what Her Majesty's opinion of Vladimir Putin was; what she thought the future held for him personally – and what she privately rather hoped it might for a man as corrupted by power as she was uncorrupted by it.

If Elizabeth II were still with us this weekend (oh, happy thought!) she would be utterly absorbed, I am sure, by events of the last few days in eastern Ukraine.

President Volodymyr Zelensky's stunningly successful counter-attack against the Russian occupiers has confounded every military expert you can shake a stick at.

God knows what Putin makes of it. His army is the bedrock of his authority and his army is falling to pieces. British intelligence believes an elite Russian tank unit formed to defend Moscow and spearhead any war against Nato has simply disintegrated under the Ukrainian assault and will take years to rebuild itself.

By midweek Lieutenant General Ben Hodges, former commander of US Army Europe and now senior adviser to Human Rights First, said flatly that it's becoming clear Ukraine is poised to win the war outright. He went further, adding: "Putin's exposed weaknesses are so severe that we might be witnessing the beginning of the end not only of his regime, but of the Russian Federation itself."

Quite a claim. But events in the east are moving so fast now it's hard to keep up. How our new Prime Minister must wish she could avail herself of those precious weekly meetings between the Queen and her premiers. Her Majesty was infinitely knowledgeable not just about current events, but the way they slotted into history. She'd have had a fine overview and perspective of what's happening not just in Ukraine, but in Moscow.

She may have quoted Ernest Hemingway, who wrote in his novel The Sun Also Rises that total collapses may begin gradually, but then suddenly become violent, uncontrollable events.

Barely a month ago the smart money was on the West, impoverished by an energy crisis thanks to Putin's war, putting pressure on Ukraine to sue for a winter peace. I certainly thought so. Now look. Mainstream Russian TV has begun to openly criticise the invasion, just as Putin's powerbase is ruthlessly shredded in Ukraine.

Anything could happen. But the Queen would probably have had a shrewder idea than anyone just what it might be. We're going to miss her in so many, many ways.

GRIEF-STRICKEN: Boris Johnson was left shocked by Her Majesty's death

J A REAL Terry and June moment to treasure in a solemn week. Charles got in a pickle while signing a visitors' book at Hillsborough Castle, huffing, "Oh God, I've put the wrong date down."

Adding insult to injury, Charles noticed his pen had leaked. "I can't bear this bloody thing! Every stinking time!"

And Camilla? She merely told him (I hope with a secret smile) he'd got the date wrong earlier as well.

I love it. An insight into the home life of our own dear King and Queen.

A right royal party blooper

R SOMETIMES, when you meet someone really, really famous, they don't look quite as you expected them to. When Judy and I interviewed Tom Hanks, he sounded like Tom Hanks as he chatted to us. But he didn't look like Tom Hanks. He looked like a version of him.

So pity the then-Cabinet minister who, making conversation with a familiar-looking woman at an upmarket Mayfair party in the mid-1960s, couldn't quite place her. Actress? Socialite?

Then she mentioned "my sister".

"Ah yes, your sister.

"What's she up to at the moment?"

"Still Queen," Princess Margaret replied!

COMFORTED BY AN UNSHAKEABLE FAITH IN THE AFTERLIFE

J I'VE BEEN shaken this week by how strongly and completely the Queen believed in the Christian faith. Of course that was her role, she was Defender of the Faith.

But as her elaborate funeral plans (which were her own) unfolded I felt a sort of holiness. Yes, she was marking the death of a monarch, with all the pomp and grandeur that demands, but she was also certain of eternal life. Her son Charles said she expected to join her great love, Prince Philip. She was confident heaven awaited.

What a gift that must be; what a comfort to know after death there lies a journey to join lost loved ones. I have a faith, but it's weak and fragile. I can't picture an afterlife; I think I might turn into a tree or something landscapey, maybe a pond.

I'd rather go to heaven.

Lucky Queen.

By **Kat Hopps**

TRAVELLING to the war-torn country of Iraq where murderous Isis militias still operate, Sir Michael Palin had no idea the riskiest part of his visit might involve climbing an ancient spiral staircase. But, as he explains, he had good reason to feel genuine fear.

The conical-shaped Malwiya minaret at the Great Mosque of Samarra is more than 170-feet high with no railing. Which offers little comfort or obvious safety to the brave souls who have climbed it for 1,000 years – one false step and you'll meet your maker.

So no wonder the veteran traveller was struck by a horrible bout of vertigo while filming at its top for his latest series, Into Iraq.

"I've been 15,000-ft up Everest but going up this unprotected minaret was far worse," he admits. "Once I got on top, my first piece to camera was so shaky. I sounded about as relaxed as someone giving a confession after a criminal arrest."

Thankfully, his vertigo quickly passed. "Once I'd done the second piece, I was absolutely fine. I loved being up there and I felt very safe."

Might the trip, at 79, bookend his career as a professional traveller? Palin isn't sure.

"People say, 'Where are you going to now?' I say 'The chemist'," he smiles.

"I'm not quite sure how much travelling I've got [left] to do. I feel enormously privileged and grateful that I've been able to do as much travelling as I have in the last 35 years... an extraordinary amount of interesting and exciting times, and adventure.

"But there's a certain point that you've got to be careful… Channel 5 seem to be quite keen on sending me to places where they can kill me!"

Undoubtedly, currently one of the world's most dangerous countries, Iraq has intrigued the former Python since he was seven when his father gave him Tales From The Arabian Nights. The stories of thieves, genies and sorcerers sparked a lifelong wanderlust.

However Palin's new documentary is not so much concerned with the past, but rather a desire to seek the truth about modern-day Iraq, which is so often diminished to being a land of bloodshed, war and brutal dictatorships.

"I was driven by curiosity, and the thing that keeps me travelling is to go somewhere I've never been to before – Iraq, rather like North Korea [which he visited in 2018], has a sort of status as a country that failed in some way," he says.

"So, it was a country that was relatively new, where terrible things had gone wrong, and I wanted to see how the country had coped with it."

He arrives in Turkey where he follows the River Tigris south across the border into Kurdistan and Mosul, which fell to Isis hands in 2014 until its international liberation in 2017.

ARABIAN KNIGHT: Sir Michael's latest travels take him to Iraq, a land that has fascinated him since he was a boy

FROM there, he journeys to Erbil, Tikrit, Baghdad and Basra. The contrasts between the places are startling.

He encounters frivolity and excitement in a raucous New Year celebration in the small mountainous town of Akre where fireworks are ignited before a torch-lit procession winds up the mountain at night.

"It is a mix between Glastonbury and Apocalypse Now," he quips.

Oil-rich Iraqi Kurdistan benefits financially from its close proximity to Turkey and its capital city, Erbil, was flush with wealth and promise. During his stay, he meets Huda Sarkaug Abdulrahman, an Iraqi Kurd, who explains how Kurds in Iraq feel more at home there than in Turkey. "Kurdistan is a part of Iraq, and yet has a great deal of autonomy – they have run their affairs pretty well," says Palin. "They have oil, so they get money from oil. It's more stable so there's more investment."

He was amazed by its affluence, which he didn't find in any other Iraqi city. "The big oil companies have these shiny, green tinted buildings," he says. "You can get any food you want, you can get a smart tailor who makes suits in traditional Kurdish style. They are very proud of being modern." Mosul, 50 miles northwest of Erbil, has a more troubled and fractious history. Isis fighters destroyed countless buildings, among them a 1,000-bed hospital.

Palin meets children living in the few homes still standing. An experience that leaves him close to tears. "They'd had a terrible time and had lost lots of loved ones, had their houses smashed, and things that we couldn't contemplate here in our country. But there was still a welcome for you, people would still come and talk to you, boys would let you use their catapult; that made it something of a high point in terms of human contact. In terms of human brutality, I suppose that was a low point."

As he ventures further south, he finds a greater undercurrent of instability.

Modern-day Iraq was created in 1920 by the British following the end of the First World War and the collapse of the Ottoman Empire. As a result, there remain huge differences between its people descended from different tribes and cultures.

"It's difficult to find national pride in a strong or obvious way," says Palin.

Military checkpoints dominate the roads and there are ominous warnings about Isis militia operating in the shadows. In Saddam Hussein's birthplace of Tikrit, he finds the dictator's crumbling palaces before being taken to a memorial for the Camp Speicher massacre, considered one of the worst atrocities in recent history.

It was here in 2014 by the Tigris that 1,700 Shia military cadets were murdered in cold blood by Isis, many of the young men were shot and pushed into the river. Others were buried in mass graves. Pictures of the young men who died line the wall nearby. It was a

TRAVELS: The star says his wife Helen, left, is supportive of his TV work. Plugging his popular 1992 series Pole To Pole, above

Pictures: CHANNEL 5, GETTY, ERIK PENDZICH/REX/SHUTTERSTOCK

People ask 'Where are you going now?' I say 'The chemist'

Former Python Sir Michael Palin has spent the past 35 years travelling the globe for his brilliant documentaries but, at 79 as he returns from one of the world's most dangerous spots, he admits it may be time to hang up his boots

TALL ORDER: Scaling the 170ft Malwiya minaret at the Great Mosque of Samarra gave former Python vertigo

IN THE KNOW: Palin meets Iraqi Kurd Huda Sarkaug Abdulrahman in Erbil while filming new series Into Iraq

"deeply depressing moment", Palin admits. "There was a sort of disconnect."

He left Tikrit soon afterwards but, admits, moving through Iraq meant taking precautions. "We were told not to travel at night and not to go outside the hotel on our own because we might be targeted. I quite enjoy that evening period when you might go out and have a drink or just walk the streets and get the feeling of a town.

"And to be told we couldn't do that made me aware that there was a danger, a higher risk than any of the places I've been before."

A self-proclaimed optimist, Palin didn't feel frightened at any point before or during the trip. "It's worse when you're contemplating it from a distance and people are saying, 'Oh, you shouldn't go there,'" he says. "When I'm actually there, I meet people, smile, share the food and immediately you relax a bit."

How did his family feel about him going to Iraq? "My wife [Helen] is normally very supportive [of my trips] – the longer [they are], the quicker she agrees," Palin jokes. But he admits his spouse, to whom he has been married for 56 years, had her concerns.

"She was really worried and I think that's reflected in the way Iraq is seen," he says.

It was only three years ago that Palin underwent surgery to fix a "leaky mitral valve", a small flap in the heart that prevents blood flowing the wrong way. He said at the time: "My heart scare reminded me that my body isn't indestructible and, if I want to keep it that way, I must know when to stop working as well as when to start again."

His travels are not as epic as they were in the 1980s and 1990s when he made Pole To Pole, Around The World In 80 Days, and Full Circle. Still, travelling 1,000 miles in three weeks will definitely take its toll.

Early on in this new series, he suffers a dizzy spell in a Turkish airport. It was momentary but proved disconcerting nonetheless.

"At the age of 78, with the new heart, I didn't know if I would be able to enjoy the journey as much because you need stamina and to do things that you would never normally do, which doctors will probably tell you not to do," he says.

"But the great thing was I found, even on that very first day, all sorts of feelings of revival and wanting to connect with places again, and a kind of restoration of the joys of travel, which is just seeing somewhere wonderful for the first time."

HE ALSO experiences the warmth of Iraqi hospitality and is invited into people's homes to share their food, although only with the men.

In most situations, he uses humour to diffuse awkward situations.

At one security stop following a tussle over filming, higher-ranking officers decide they want selfies. Palin immediately dubs the spot "Checkpoint Cheerful".

The hostility is more prevalent in the far south where religious militias proliferate.

"We stayed in the town of Nasiriyah," he recalls. "We arrived late at night and went to the hotel, and actually, the room was very comfortable. I woke up in the morning and I pulled the curtain back and there was a bullet hole in the window."

He makes a joke about anti-British feeling, or general poor service, but there is a serious point to the story.

"In the south, it was difficult to connect with people there in quite the same way as you could in Kurdistan or Baghdad."

He finds hope, especially in Baghdad where he encounters competing poets performing satirical material about the government, something that would have been unthinkable in the not-too-distant past.

"It has made me aware that you can't just say, 'Oh, Iraq: failed state, war – that's the end of it'," he adds. "This is a country that, like it or not, doesn't work that well but it has to be there for the future.

"There are people who will believe very much in Iraq and, having been there, I feel I know more about their situation."

● *Michael Palin: Into Iraq starts on Tuesday on Channel 5, at 9pm. His book of the same name is out now. Tickets for his tour, From North Korea Into Iraq, are available via TheMichaelPalin.com*

Picture: MONICA SCHIPPER/GETTY IMAGES FOR THE KERING FOUNDATION

Jewel purpose ... Salma sported diamonds in her rings and large necklace for the New York bash

Salma's a gem at helping charity

By **Chris Riches**

THE stars shone for a New York women's charity banquet and none more so than Salma Hayek who sparkled in a rhinestone gown, matched with diamond necklace and earrings – and huge diamond rings.

The Desperado actress, 56, paused for photos as she entered the Kering Foundation's Caring for Women dinner on Park Avenue.

Salma was joined on the red carpet by Harry Potter star Emma Watson and US activist-journalist Gloria Steinem, right.

The event, co-chaired by Salma, was supporting the Kering Foundation's partnerships that help victims of gender-based violence.

Referee! Children to get sent off for heading the ball

By **Mark Reynolds**

CHILDREN will be sent off in football matches if they deliberately head the ball to stop a goal, it has been revealed.

The FA has sent the guideline to junior teams which are testing its new safety initiative aimed at reducing brain damage in footballers.

The trial begins this weekend and will involve teams from under-sixes up to under-12s. The pilot scheme will prohibit players from heading the ball in training and matches for the 2022-23 season.

And a "deliberate header" to stop a goalbound shot will result in a red card, in the same way a goal-line handball results in a dismissal. Yellow cards will be shown to players if they stop a "promising opposition attack" by deliberately heading the ball. A child who "persistently offends" will also be booked.

Prohibited...heading is banned

But some coaches fear the rules will destroy the game.

Mike Statham, an under-12s coach for Hessle FC in Hull, said: "The new law in grassroots football is going to ruin the game. Heading is a natural reaction in football. This trial is going to be an absolute mess."

Research has linked the repeated heading of a football with brain function decline.

In 2002, former England star Jeff Astle, 59, died from a neurodegenerative disease that an expert told his inquest was likely to have been exacerbated by heading a football.

An FA spokesman said: "We want to mitigate against any potential risks and implement restricted heading."

After the trials are completed the FA hope to roll out the heading rule to all players under 12.

By **Christopher Wilson**

Royal sisters who were the best (and worst) of friends

Separated in age by just four years, the young princesses were competitive to the point of fisticuffs. Elizabeth had a mean left hook... but Margaret was known to bite. And the rivalry lasted a lifetime

THEY were labelled "Lilibet and Lilliput" – the latter on account of the fact Princess Margaret was no more than five feet tall. They were the best of friends, and the worst of friends. The royal pair, four years apart, were chalk and cheese.

As Margaret's biographer Craig Brown pointed out: "Margaret was wild. Lilibet was tidy – she'd hop out of bed several times a night to make sure her shoes were straight and her clothes tidy."

Indeed, from the very earliest days there was a rivalry between the two. As a result, the princesses' nursery didn't always run on an even keel and they often fought – Elizabeth had a mean left hook, but Margaret liked to get in close and was known to bite.

"The elder girl seemed the more dignified," recalled another biographer, Tim Heald, "and she was able to control her temper generally. Margaret was naughtier, but adept at kissing and making up as if nothing had happened."

The competition between the two was keen from the start.

While decisions over the girls' early education were made with Elizabeth in mind, it was Margaret who proved the more precocious student – she would constantly try to narrow the age gap between herself and her sister. When Lilibet started French lessons, Margaret (or Princess Margaret Rose, as she was known in the early days) would eavesdrop at the door and show off her superior accent in front of the King and Queen.

This led, in the early days, to Lilibet acting younger than her age, Margaret older.

"I wish Lilibet could get away from the little-girl atmosphere that Margaret inevitably gives her," noted their friend Alathea Fitzalan Howard in her diary. "I adore Margaret but it's such a pity she keeps her sister back."

This situation perhaps wasn't helped by their mother the Queen who dressed them as twins, made them share the same room, and attend the same activities. Lilibet had the edge by getting horse riding lessons first, and being allowed an extra half-hour at bedtime.

IN ADDITION, the girls were constantly reminded of their unique position, and though friends were allowed – sometimes – to come to the royal family homes, King George VI was determined they should remain apart from mere mortals. "We Four" was how he described the family unit, meaning: "We are royal and everyone else isn't."

As they grew, it was Margaret who captured people's attention first with her big piercing blue eyes, her bell-like laughter and her naughtiness.

She resented the fact that Lilibet, as future sovereign, was now getting extra lessons and would find ways to draw attention to herself by, for example, disappearing and sending her parents and staff into a near-panic until she appeared nonchalantly from hiding.

She would shatter her father's anger by making jokes – on one occasion, she asked him, 'Papa, do you sing 'God Save My Gracious Me?' "She could twist him round her little finger," recalled one courtier.

"Elizabeth responded to Margaret's antics with exasperated tolerance," writes their joint biographer Andrew Morton. "While Margaret rolled around with laughter, Elizabeth went into hiding, cringing with embarrassment while grudgingly admiring her sister's nerve."

The crucial part of the sisters' upbringing was lived out at Windsor Castle during the Second World War, and quite soon a young blond naval officer came into their lives.

Prince Philip of Greece had been given the job of hosting the two young princesses when they paid a visit to Dartmouth Royal Naval College in 1939.

The prince was 18, Lilibet was only 13 – but old enough to be smitten by what she saw. Later Philip, bronzed and toughened by war, came to visit Windsor Castle where he was sized up by the King and Queen as a possible future husband for Lilibet – he was, after all, a war hero – but there was little point, she'd already made up her mind he was the one for her.

At about the same time, onto the royal staff came a Battle of Britain flying ace called Peter Townsend. In 1945, at the war's end, he was approaching his 31st birthday – Margaret was 15. But as Lilibet had said, years before, "Margaret always wants what I want" – and history was about to repeat itself. Margaret fell for the married father-of-two and nothing in her stubborn personality would permit anybody to dislodge this great new love.

THE Margaret/Townsend love scandal would not erupt for another eight years, just days after the Queen's Coronation, but a question mark still remains over exactly when the ill-starred lovers became close. As Queen, Elizabeth had to find some means of damping down her excitable sister's passion, and on her orders he was exiled to Brussels for a year. The parting was a harrowing one which drove a wedge between the two sisters – from Margaret's standpoint, Lilibet had married her war hero, why shouldn't she?

In the end, of course, Margaret married Tony Snowdon, the old Etonian photographer with a rackety past and a bohemian set of friends.

Was Lilibet just a tad jealous of her kid sister, with her freewheeling life of parties and jollity?

By now she'd been slogging away at being the sovereign for seven years, and when Margaret and Snowdon tied the knot at Westminster Abbey on May 6, 1960, she was not in the best of humour. Diarist Kenneth

CHALK AND CHEESE: But Lilibet and Margaret were often dressed as twins

Pictures: GETTY, CHANNEL 4, KENT GAVIN

AILING: Margaret in 2001; below, with her husband the Earl of Snowdon in 1967

REGAL RIVALRY: The sisters pose in 1946 at the ages of 20 and 16

Rose described "her sulking Queen Victoria face throughout the entire service – not a ghost of a smile".

But in the end, Lilibet ended up being much closer to Snowdon – who took some stunning pictures of her – than Margaret, who ended up hating her husband.

The Roddy Llewellyn affair which supposedly broke up the royal couple – in fact, Snowdon had hardly led a blameless life during the loyal marriage and was as much to blame – Lilibet approached with caution.

Initially, she banned him from royal premises and only at her sister's 50th birthday party, six years after the relationship began, did she deign to acknowledge him for the first time. "Over the years the Queen had done everything possible to accommodate and welcome the men in Margaret's life," writes Andrew Morton.

"But not this one. The Queen drew the line at his perceived involvement in the first-ever royal divorce in well over 400 years."

For the first time in their lives, the two sisters were in direct conflict.

But the problem was solved when Llewellyn backed out of the relationship and announced his engagement to another woman. "I'm really happy for him," Margaret lied.

"Anyway, I couldn't have afforded him much longer!" Margaret, the roistering, wayward, imperious kid sister of the Queen, never quite got over the fact that she'd always come second, and throughout her life would keep her sister waiting.

After falling by accident into a scalding bath while on her holiday island of Mustique, Margaret's health deteriorated rapidly and soon she was confined to a wheelchair.

Her eyesight started to fail and eventually she became blind.

To fill the days, she would get her long-suffering lady-in-waiting Lady Anne Glenconner to read to her and she would listen to the radio. One day Elizabeth came to visit her sister and stayed to tea.

"I stayed in the drawing room so they could have some time together," Lady Anne recalls, "and the Queen went off to the bedroom to find Princess Margaret.

"Quite soon after she'd gone in, she reappeared. I asked if everything was all right, but she replied crossly that it wasn't. 'Margaret is listening to The Archers and every time I try to say something she just says 'Ssssssh'."

LADY ANNE was unsurprised. Margaret's defiant streak extended to her sister, even though she was the monarch.

"I always noticed that she had a very subtle strategy for one-upmanship, which contributed to the constant bickering that went on between her and the Queen Mother."

Ever resourceful, even in these tricky diplomatic circumstances, Lady Anne told the Queen to come back with her, strode into the bedroom and switched off the radio.

She poured tea and got the sisters talking, then quietly withdrew.

It was to be one of the last conversations between the sisters – and it nearly didn't happen.

Margaret's funeral took place at St George's Chapel, Windsor, in February 2002, 50 years to the day since her father's funeral in the same place.

It was to be the last outing for the Queen Mother – less than two months later, she died at the age of 102.

Fascinatingly, she had stipulated that she wanted to be buried with her father King George VI, but since the Queen Mother's final resting place was to be beside her husband, and there was no more room, it was arranged that – uniquely for a major royal – she would be cremated so that her ashes could be buried with her mother and father.

'Elizabeth had to find some means of damping down her excitable sister's passion'

Her sister, the woman she jousted so competitively with all her life, would have altogether a much grander end to her days.

DX1ST

Pictures:NORTH NEWS

Spy book hunts down old owner

By **Paul Jeeves**

A MAN who ordered his favourite childhood book online was stunned when he noticed his boyish handwriting inside – and realised it was the original he had owned as a lad.

Young Tom Tolson dreamed of being a spy and, at 10, bought The Secret Agent's Handbook by Peter Eldin for 45p.

Now 49, he picked up the second-hand copy for £2.80 and couldn't believe his eyes when it arrived.

Tom, of Nottingham, said: "I remembered writing 'top secret' and that was my handwriting, I was shocked."

Going book in time...Tom and, inset, his scrawl from 1983

Tourist dies in 400ft cliff fall horror

By **Natalia Penza**

A TOURIST was killed after he slipped and fell nearly 400ft off a cliff at a Spanish beauty spot.

The 55-year-old, who lived in London, lost his footing while visiting La Mola lighthouse on the Balearic island of Formentera with his partner and friends.

He was thought to be Lebanese but police sources said he had a British passport.

Emergency crews used jet skis, drones and a helicopter to locate his body as it could not be seen from the cliff top.

Rescue

A Civil Guard copter crew found him 50 feet out to sea. Footage showed an officer attaching a rescue bag to a winch hook.

The man was said to be on a day trip from the island of Ibiza where he had been staying at a luxury hotel.

A Civil Guard spokesman said his death on Tuesday was being treated as a tragic accident and there was nothing to suggest a crime.

The lighthouse is one of Formentera's top tourist attractions, known for its spectacular views at the eastern end of the island on the plateau of La Mola.

Tragedy...La Mola lighthouse

Locals and holidaymakers flock there at sunrise and sunset. Novelist Jules Verne wrote about the place in his 1877 novel Hector Servadac (Off On A Comet), describing it as the "lighthouse at the end of the world".

Since 2019 the building has hosted a museum and interpretation centre.

The area from which the British man fell is said to have been protected with ropes to keep visitors away from dangerous spots following an incident four years ago that involved an island resident.

It was not immediately clear where on the cliff the tourist was when he lost his balance and fell.

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

EUROMILLIONS
10 27 36 45 49 3 4

THUNDERBALL
7 11 19 36 38 7

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

SET FOR LIFE 3 13 20 23 38 4

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

LOTTERY 25 38 45 46 55 57 16

THUNDERBALL 2 11 20 27 36 12

THE HEALTH LOTTERY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

3 6 38 43 46 31

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

6 25 28 37 45 15

The society benefiting from all draws in the month ending September 30, 2022, is Northern Health Equality CIC trading as Health Lottery North West.

30-SECOND CHALLENGE

JUST follow the instructions from left to right, starting with the number given to reach an answer at the end of the row. Set your own 30-second challenge. For the very young or arithmetically rusty, you have 30 seconds for the BEGINNER task. For a greater challenge, try BEGINNER and INTERMEDIATE in 30 seconds. True mental gymnasts should try INTERMEDIATE and ADVANCED in 30 seconds together.

Today's answers can be found on page 55

										YOUR ANSWERS
Beginner	55	-49	x7	-27	x5	-39	50% OF THIS	+37	4/5 OF THIS	
Intermediate	268	75% OF THIS	-16	2/5 OF THIS	+192	6/7 OF THIS	+52	3/10 OF THIS	-49	
Advanced	292	INCREASE BY 75%	-63	7/8 OF THIS	REVERSE THE DIGITS	+136	8/11 OF THIS	-24	÷16	

QUOTE OF THE DAY

'We have been overwhelmed by the tide of emotion that has engulfed us'

Prince Edward

SUDOKU

Fill in all the squares so that each row, each column, and each 3x3 square contain all the digits from 1 to 9

8	6					5		4
4			8	5	7			
			4		1			8
	7	4		9		8	5	
	1		7		2		4	
	2	8		4		7	3	
1			3		5			
			9	1	4			5
2		3					1	9

This is the Quick Sudoku for the solver in a hurry.
For today's solution call:
09071 812 571
(Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge)

For extra clues call:
09013 225 602
(Calls cost 75p plus your telephone company's network access charge)

MORE PUZZLES – PAGE 54

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

7	8	3	1	2	4	5	6	9
2	4	6	3	5	9	1	8	7
1	9	5	7	6	8	2	4	3
8	6	1	4	3	2	7	9	5
5	3	9	6	7	1	8	2	4
4	7	2	8	9	5	3	1	6
6	2	7	9	8	3	4	5	1
3	5	4	2	1	6	9	7	8
9	1	8	5	4	7	6	3	2

DO YOU HAVE A STORY OR A PHOTO?

If you have a story:
020 8612 7077
or email:
expressnews@reachplc.com

If you have a photo:
020 8612 7171
or email:
expresspix@express.co.uk

For general inquiries:
020 8612 7000

Next rail strikes to hit Tories

By **Paul Jeeves**

TRAIN drivers will resume strikes next month – threatening Conservative Party Conference travel.

Drivers at 12 train operators will walk out on October 1 and 5.

The action is set to affect journeys to and from the annual Tory get together in Birmingham from October 2-5.

A strike by drivers on September 15 was called off as a mark of respect after the Queen's death.

Drivers' union Aslef will not make a public comment until after the late monarch's State Funeral on Monday.

Misery

One rail industry source was furious, saying: "It is incredible and utterly disrespectful that the Aslef leadership has chosen to announce strike action to train operators today.

"This is a time when the rail family is working hard to support the hundreds of thousands who wish to pay their respects to Her Majesty the Queen."

Meanwhile, fresh travel misery will hit thousands of holiday-makers this weekend after French air traffic controllers launched a 24-hour strike yesterday.

Ryanair cancelled 420 flights, affecting 80,000 passengers, while EasyJet axed 76. British Airways has cancelled 22, while Air France said it would only run 45 per cent of short-haul flights.

Beergate cost £100k

By **Lauren Beavis**

SIR Keir Starmer's "Beergate" probe set police back more than £100,000 and used nine major crime detectives, a report has revealed.

The investigation by Durham Constabulary into whether Labour's leader broke Covid rules took its team – including sleuths used to solving murders – 3,200 hours.

Police spent more than £101,000 on the probe, NationalWorld found.

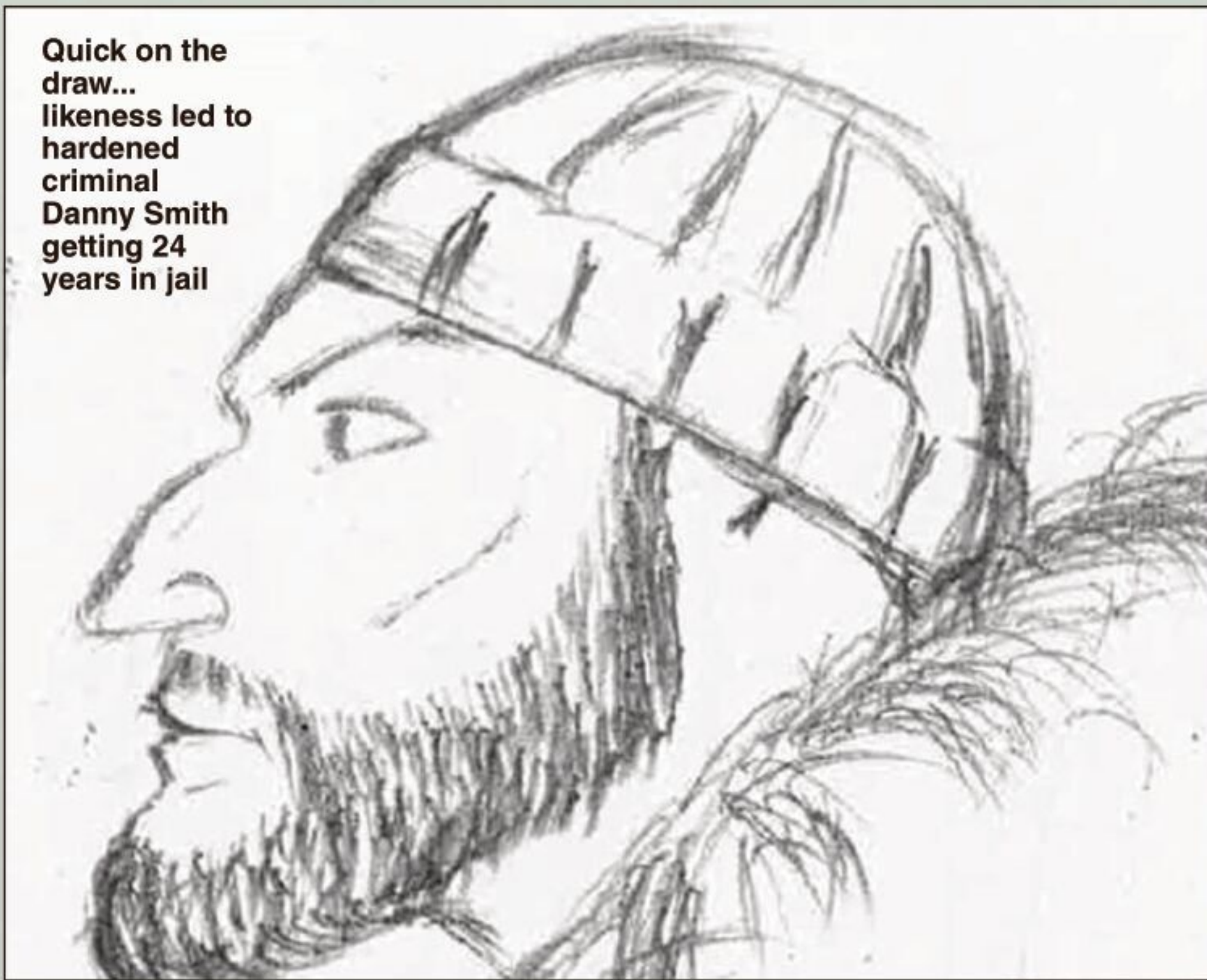
Sir Keir and his deputy Angela Rayner were cleared in July this year.

They had been spotted having takeaway and beers with colleagues in Durham on 30 April 2021, while on the campaign trail.

Pictures: SWNS

Witness's uncanny sketch helps to bring hit-and-run driver to justice

Quick on the draw... likeness led to hardened criminal Danny Smith getting 24 years in jail

By **Ted Hennessey**

A DANGEROUS criminal who killed a young man in a crash has been jailed for 24 years thanks to a witness sketch.

Danny Smith, 44, was trying to overtake two cars when he smashed into a motorbike ridden by Saleem Ahmed, 20.

A witness saw Smith, who had been driving erratically in an Audi prior to the collision, and drew a likeness which identified him following his arrest two months later.

Smith was jailed for 24 years at Snaresbrook Crown Court for causing Mr Ahmed's death by dangerous driving while unqualified and uninsured and failing to stop in Redbridge, East London. Smith also admitted robbery, burglary, handling stolen goods, criminal damage, theft of a motor vehicle and dangerous driving in different incidents.

Two days before crashing into Mr Ahmed, on December 17 last year Smith, pushed and threatened an elderly woman at her home in Havering before stealing cash.

In February, he stole money from an elderly man in Ilford after entering his home under false pretences. Four days later he stole a vehicle from a showroom in Romford while pretending to show interest in buying it.

He was caught by police while driving erratically in Waltham Forest two days later, and was arrested after attempting to escape.

The Met said: "The sketch provided by the witness – bearing an uncanny resemblance to Smith – would help prove he was the driver."

Mr Ahmed's family said: "The help the witnesses gave my son, comforting him as he passed away, and to the ones who helped bring Smith to justice, I'll be forever grateful."

Jeremy Vine stalker jailed for nine year 'avalanche' of hate

Target...Jeremy Vine was sent vile messages

By **John Twomey**

A FORMER BBC local radio DJ has been jailed for five and a half years after being convicted of four stalking charges against broadcasters including Jeremy Vine in which he "weaponised the internet" against those he targeted.

Alex Belfield was found guilty after a trial at Nottingham Crown Court last month of waging a relentless stalking campaign during which Mr Vine was subjected to an "avalanche of hatred".

The TV and radio host called him "the Jimmy Savile of trolling".

Alarm

The trial had heard Belfield repeatedly posted or sent abusive messages, videos and emails.

Jurors accepted Belfield, 42, caused serious alarm or distress to two victims.

He was found guilty of "simple" stalking in relation to Channel 5 and BBC Radio 2 presenter Mr Vine and regarding theatre blogger Philip Dehany.

BBC Radio Northampton presenter Bernie Keith was said to have been left feeling suicidal following a "tsunami of hate", the trial heard.

Mr Vine, 57, described watching Belfield's video output as like swimming in sewage.

He said in court about the stalker's conduct: "It felt like I had a fish hook in my face and my flesh was being torn, and the only way to avoid further pain was to stay completely still."

Jurors convicted Belfield, of Mapperley, Nottingham, of four charges committed between 2012 and 2021.

Sentencing Belfield, who sat taking notes in the court dock, Mr Justice Saini told him: "Your offences are so serious, only a custodial sentence can be justified."

He added a pre-sentence report showed that while Belfield "fully acknowledges the distress to victims" it also "highlights you still appear to focus on the impact on you and feel in certain respects you've been unfairly treated".

The judge further told Belfield that while not "traditional stalking ... your methods were just as effective a way of intimidating victims and in many ways much harder to deal with".

He added that there was "no escape" for Belfield's victims, until bail conditions were imposed ahead of his trial.

He agreed with Mr Vine's characterisation that the former DJ had "weaponised the internet" against those he targeted.

The judge also ordered indefinite restraining orders be made against Belfield, in favour of his victims and four other individuals.

Abusive ...DJ Alex Belfield targeted presenter Mr Vine

LATE-LIFE ADVENTURE LEFT ME WITH AN EMPTY LOVE NEST

After losing his beloved wife of 55 years, HUNTER DAVIES was seeking companionship in old age. Instead, he's found himself living alone on the Isle of Wight and launching a new literary festival. Does he regret it? Not for a single minute

OH WHAT a mess I have got myself into. It was daft enough at the age of 84 deciding to start a new life with a new woman in a new house in a brand-new place.

I knew I might fall ill – after all, I had a triple heart bypass op four years ago – or something simple could go wrong, like falling over, which I seem to do often these days, sometimes totally sober (how would I find a hospital or even a GP in a new town?).

But I didn't expect this to happen.

I suppose it all started when my wife Margaret died six years ago, after 55 years of marriage.

We met when she was still at school in Carlisle and I had just become a student.

After she died, I sold the country home we owned in Lakeland for 30 years and gave the proceeds to our three children.

After about a year on my own, I began to feel lonely: having to cook for myself and sleep on my own. I have loads of friends, an active social and work life and I did not plan to get married again. In my head, I am still married to my wife Margaret.

But I began to yearn to have a love heart, a kindred spirit, a companion – someone to go on holiday with.

For the last four years, I have had a girlfriend. We had great times, and holidays, but did not live together. We each had our own house and family.

We'd been going out for three years before we reached the stage of considering it.

Then we decided against it: I could not live in her house in south London; it was too clean and white and immaculate for me. I would be scared to sit down.

And she could not live in my battered Victorian house near Hampstead Heath in north London.

It was too scruffy; it would upset her.

So two years ago, we decided to find a country cottage together, a love nest just for us where we could spend the rest of our lives.

I can't remember why we chose the Isle of Wight. Neither of us knew it.

I was last there in 1966 when I came to interview the governor of Parkhurst prison, whose inmates at the time included the Great Train Robbers and a Kray Brother. Hard to believe the Home Office today would allow a diary columnist to go into a prison and meet the governor.

We first visited the island in the summer of 2020. It was still a time of high Covid and we had come on the car ferry to look at what sounded like a fab cottage in a place called Seaview. It turned out to be as attractive as the estate agents had promised, with a garden front and back.

Alas, we had not realised it was surrounded by a new estate. Who wants a love nest where prying eyes can watch your every intimate move?

On the way back to the ferry, my girlfriend found a terrific looking cottage in Ryde.

She had gone on the Rightmove website before bed, as so many women of a certain age do before they go to sleep, a harmless bit of property porn.

WE HAD NOT planned to be in a street in a town, wanting to be out in the country or by the sea. But it was only three minutes from a three-mile-long sandy beach – and all on the flat (I also had a new knee some years ago, so steps and hills can be a problem these days).

It was grade-two listed, a Regency gem and only £280,000.

In London, where I have lived for 60 years, you can pay that for a garage. In Mayfair, £280,000 will hardly get you a parking space.

We both loved it at once, but then got into a bidding war, all cash buyers.

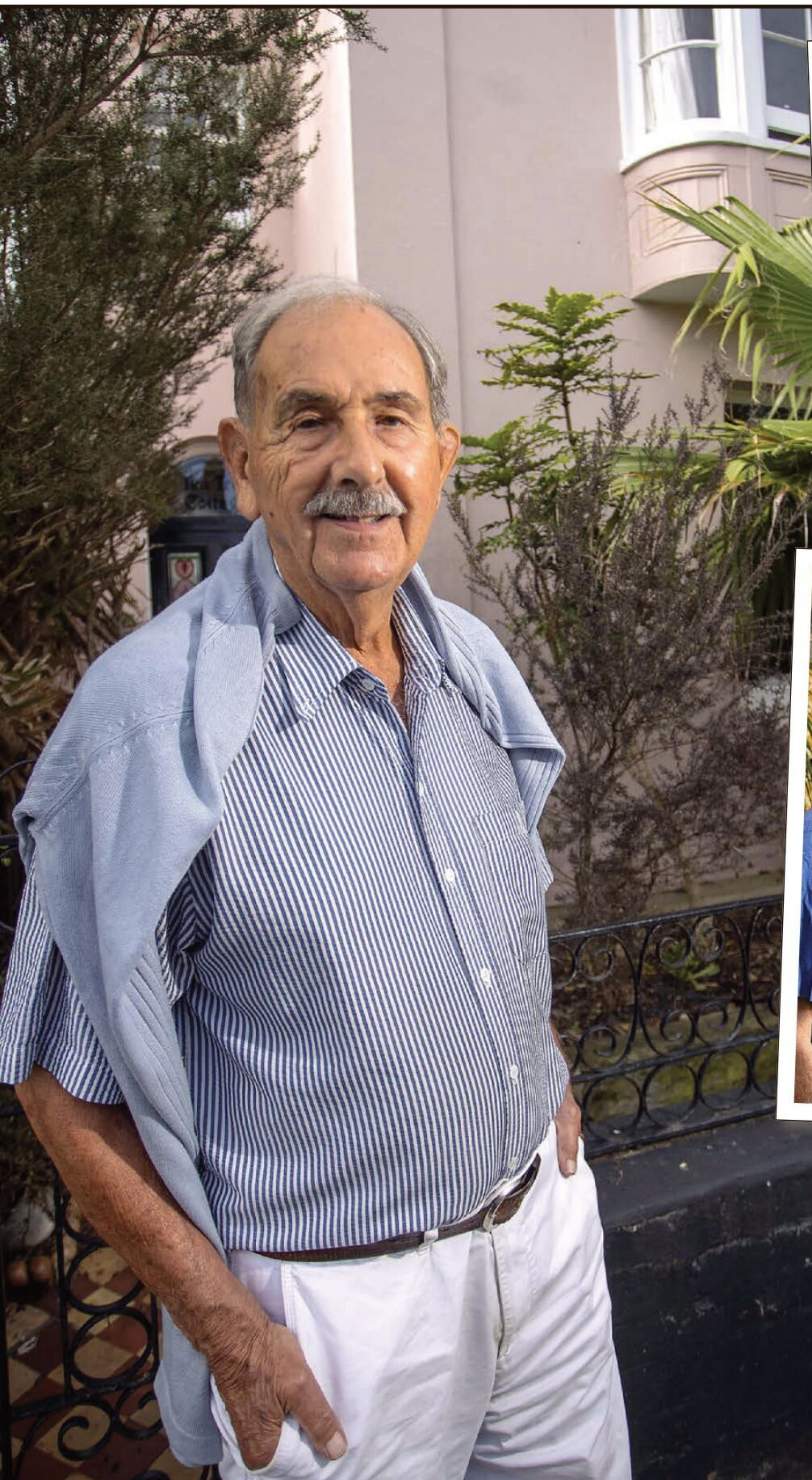
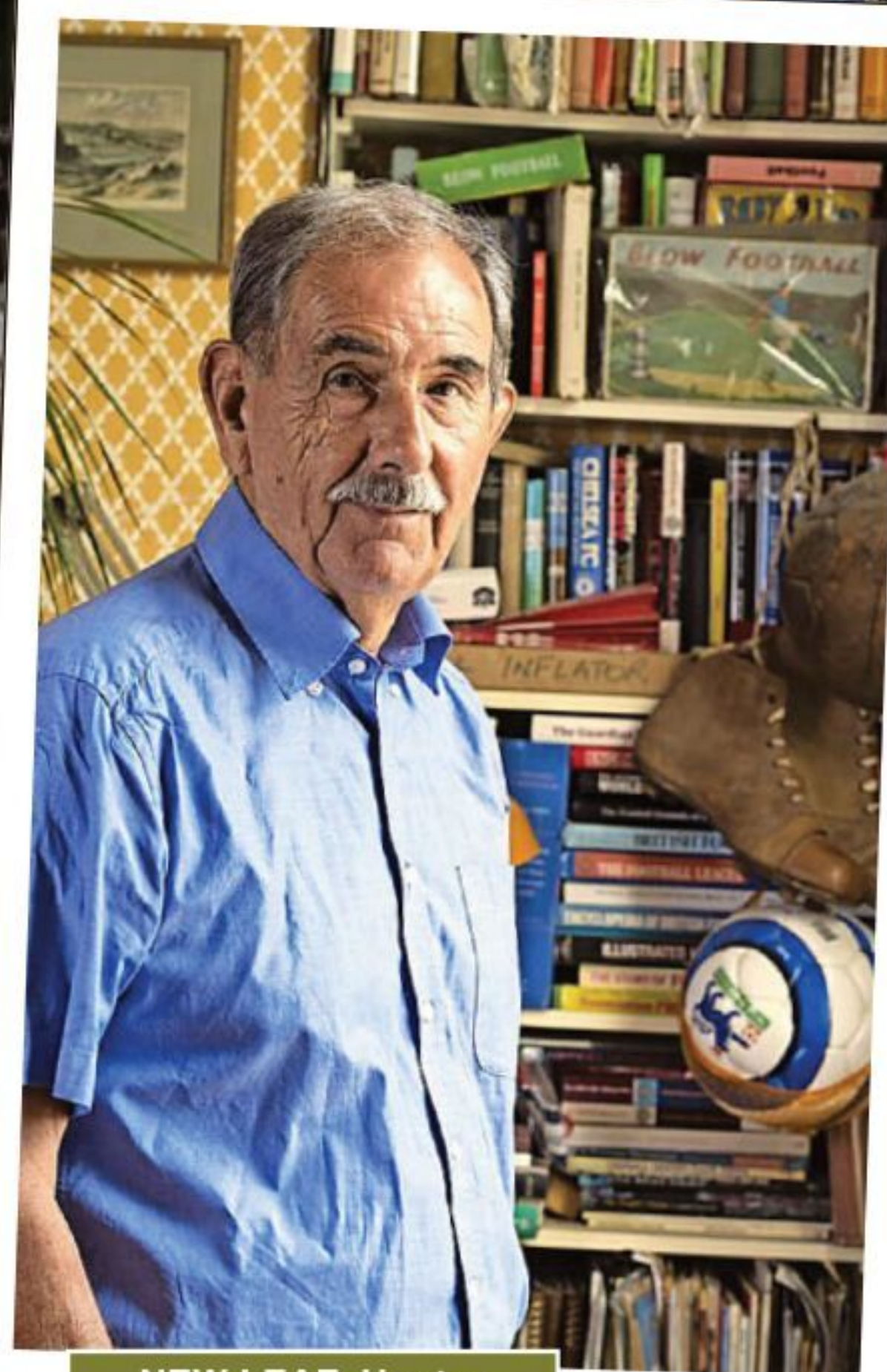
People were flooding out of London to retreat to the seaside, so the estate agents boasted, having a beanfeast, enjoying the best period of their lives. The price went up and up.

I bid £310,000 as my last offer, despite being told a rival had bid £321,000.

But then the owner decided to sell it to us. She is from Leeds, a good sensible Northern lass. She did not trust that the other bidder would complete. So we got it. Hurrah. We moved into the cottage two years ago, in September 2020.

I decided to write a book about our first

'My heart flutters every time I come back from the beach, down the tiled path, to my pink-washed cottage'

LOSS: Hunter with his wife Margaret Forster on holiday in 1986

SLIPPED MOORINGS: Ryde has welcomed many city folk shipping out to enjoy life on the coast

NEW LEAF: Hunter Davies, main, outside his new home in Ryde on the Isle of Wight. Above, in his 'scruffy' north London living room

year – as that is my day job and has been for almost 60 years now with 103 published. Boast, boast.

I called it Love In Old Age: My Year In The Wight House.

The love refers to three things.

Love for a new house, love of a new island and love of a new woman. Now, two years later, I still love the house. Yes, there were damp problems and dodgy drains, but they are sorted. All it cost was money.

My heart flutters every time I come back from the beach to my cottage, through the front gate, down the tiled path and into the sweet little pink-washed cottage with its lovely Regency bow window.

So, ten out of ten for the house – and for the street and for Ryde. I have made so many new friends locally, and been to so many events.

There is so much art and music, so much to do and see, so many lovely houses, handsome squares and buildings.

The Island is a gem. All of the English landscape is there, without the hustle and bustle, the noise and grime.

I have explored most of it, well at least round the coast. It is a total delight, yet still so unknown to most people in England.

The Cotswolds, Cornwall and Lake District get all the attention on the travel pages while the Isle of Wight, being relatively small, with a population of only 140,000, and a bit hard to get to, does tend to be ignored. Anyway, ten out of ten for the island as well. So what about the third element, the third object of my love in old age – my girlfriend?

Alas, we have fallen out. No need to go into the reasons, you would only be interested.

So nil points for my love life. That is all over.

Now I find myself back where I began, with a house which I love but no one to share it with. I have also got myself into another slight mess.

As part of that first mad year of passionate love, I decided to give something back to the island. I have begun the Isle of Wight Book Awards.

We have got support from excellent local sponsors and got two famous authors as judges – Alan Titchmarsh and Joanna Trollope – along with my good self. The first Grand Awards Lunch with 100 guests and a slap-up do at the Island Sailing Club in Cowes, with speeches and amusements, take place on October 12.

THIS IS NOT my first literary awards. I began the Lake District Book Awards 38 years ago – and they are still going strong, with sponsors queuing up.

But I have just retired as a judge as I no longer have a house in Lakeland.

With the Isle of Wight, I saw myself living here for the rest of my life, or longer.

What shall I do now?

The Book Awards will go on, as they are clearly successful already.

And I want to be part of them.

But do I want to live in this house all on my own? How will I find another chum to share my love nest with me?

That is my hope, my desire, my fantasy. Wish me luck.

● *Love In Old Age by Hunter Davies (Head of Zeus, £21.99) is out now. For free UK P&P, visit expressbookshop.com or call 020 3176 3832*

LOVE IN OLD AGE
HUNTER DAVIES

Pictures: STEVE REIGATE, PA, ANDREW CROWLEY FOR THE TELEGRAPH, ALAMY

The Saturday briefing

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER by KAY HARRISON

Pictures: GETTY; PA

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Is there anything you're yearning to know? Send your questions, on any subject, to the contacts given below, and we will do our best to answer them...

Q What was No.10 Downing Street before it became the residence of prime ministers?
P Rhodes, Leeds

A The earliest recorded building on the site was the Axe brewery, later called the King's Head, which was leased by Abingdon Abbey in the Middle Ages. In the 16th century, Henry VIII passed the building on to a goldsmith and jeweller, who was allowed to use it as a storehouse for his art during his lifetime.

In 1581, Elizabeth I leased the first domestic house there to Sir Thomas Knyvett, who was one of the queen's favourites – he led the search of Parliament's cellars that resulted in Guy Fawkes' arrest.

The street owes its name to an unpleasant nobleman, George Downing, who commissioned Sir Christopher Wren to design 15 terraced houses there. Samuel Pepys, who lived near Downing Street, on Axe Yard, described Downing as a "perfidious rogue".

The last private occupant was a man called Mr Chicken, who lived there in the 1730s, and it has been the locale of British prime ministers since 1735.

STREET SPIRIT: No.10 has been used by PMs since 1735: from left, in 1900, Liz Truss, and Mrs Thatcher in 1979. Below, the Marx Brothers

Q When I was a young man I used to watch the Marx Brothers films and loved seeing Harpo play the harp. But was he really playing it? Are there any recordings?
Mr S F Lee, Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset

A Adolph "Harpo" Marx grew up in New York with his German grandmother's stringless harp in his home. Before immigrating to America in the 19th century, his grandfather was a travelling magician who would go from town to town carrying a bag of tricks, his children, his wife and that harp.

His first working harp was given to him by his mother Minnie, who was also her sons' manager, as she wanted to add variety to their vaudeville show.

He taught himself, but got into unconventional habits, tuning it incorrectly and copying his posture from a picture of an angel playing in heaven.

He stopped talking on stage after getting a bad review and it became his character, with critics gushing that no one could say more with so few words, except for Charlie Chaplin.

But the critics were torn over who was funnier, Groucho or clownish Harpo, in his curly wig.

The great debate prompted him to seek out actual harp lessons to sharpen his skills, but these professionals often ended up so fascinated by his techniques, he would teach them instead. He also taught himself the clarinet, piano and harmonica, but never learned to read or write music properly.

Q I believe, before O-levels and GCSEs, there was a School Certificate established in 1918 but was there an educational qualification prior to that?
Stephen Parry, Erdington, Birmingham

A Official school exams have been around since 1858. Universities, notably Oxford and Cambridge, were asked to produce exams – but only a small proportion of students across the country sat them, and girls were not allowed until almost a decade later. In England, going to school was not even compulsory until the late 19th century.

Some of the first exams came from the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), and they were for juniors (under 16) and seniors (under 18), and took place in schools or local church halls.

Subjects included English, maths, RE, zoology, geology, Latin and Greek, and questions from 1858 included: "In what three ways was our Lord tempted in the wilderness?" Students were required to memorise chunks of information, for instance recalling Bible verses, drawing maps of mountain ranges and listing the names of kings and queens, and dates of battles.

From 1918, these were replaced by the School Certificate for 16 year-olds and a Higher School Certificate, taken at 18. But most children left school at 14 without formal qualifications.

The 1944 Education Act brought the biggest reform, extending free secondary education to all, and introducing the tripartite system (grammar, technical and modern) with compulsory education to 15 and, later, 16.

Fee-paying at state schools was banned and church schools were also brought into the fold.

PLEASE SEND US YOUR INTRIGUING QUESTIONS ON ANY SUBJECT:
● **By email:** put "questions" in the subject line and send to kay.harrison@reachplc.com
● **By post:** to Any Questions, Daily Express, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5AP
● **Unfortunately we cannot reply individually, but we will feature the best questions on this page.**

forgotten verse

Sheila Jackson from Hull in Yorkshire's East Riding would like to read the words of the Autumn Song by WH Auden. It is one of Auden's "Twelve Songs", along with the more famous Stop All The Clocks.

AUTUMN SONG
WH Auden (1936)

Now the leaves are falling fast,
Nurse's flowers will not last,
Nurses to their
graves are gone,
But the prams go rolling on.

Whispering neighbours
left and right
Daunt us from our true delight,
Able hands are forced to freeze
Derelict on lonely knees.

Close behind us on our track,
Dead in hundreds cry Alack,
Arms raised stiffly to reprove
In false attitudes of love.

Scrawny through a
plundered wood,
Trolls run scolding
for their food,
Owl and nightingale
are dumb,
And the angel will
not come.

Clear, unscalable, ahead
Rise the Mountains
of Instead,
From whose cold
cascading streams
None may drink except
in dreams.

If you can't remember the words to a favourite verse or song from yesteryear, send us a snippet and we'll do our best to find all the wonderful words.

BEACHCOMBER 105 YEARS OLD AND STILL ARGUING WITH MACHINES...

FOR once, I thought I was prepared when I took command of a self-service check-out at the supermarket. With one hand, I scanned through all my purchases, while I held in the other my Nectar card ready for action. I pressed "Finish and Pay" and instantly scanned my Nectar card before the machine had a chance to say: "If you have a Nectar card, please scan it now."

I had, many times in the past, scanned the card before the machine had finished saying "If" but it always persevered until the end of the message, never even being harried away from its normal sedate speed.

Surely, I thought, if I completed the scan even before it had begun asking me to do so, it would not bother. I was wrong. For despite my alacrity, it still said "If you have a Nectar card, please scan it now."

"I have done so," I told the machine. "In any case, I have been shopping here for years. It is high time you realised that I have a Nectar card."

"Card accepted," the machine said as though that justified its actions.

"It's always accepted," I said. "It's a valid card. And while I'm here, I must take this opportunity to ask what precise function the words 'If you have a Nectar card' are meant to have. If someone does not have a Nectar card, they cannot scan it anyway, and your message never continues with advice on what to do if the customer doesn't have a Nectar card."

The machine paused, then said with clear excitement in its voice: "Mr Beachcomber, is that you? I'd know that positivism anywhere."

Suddenly, I recognised the metallic tone of voice I knew so well. "Well my goodness," I said, "what are you doing here? Shouldn't you be at Tesco?" "Shhh," the machine hushed me. "I'm just moonlighting at Sainsbury's.

"Anyway, I could ask you the same question. I've always trusted your fidelity when you flash your Tesco Club loyalty card at me, now I see you dallying with the check-outs at Sainsbury's."

"I hate doing this," I said, "but until they produce a single Disloyalty card that works everywhere, I have to remain loyal to every supermarket."

"Wherever you may be, I'll be delighted to fill up your bagging area," she purred. "Don't forget to take your bag."

"See you soon at Tesco," I replied, and I hurried off clutching my bag fondly.

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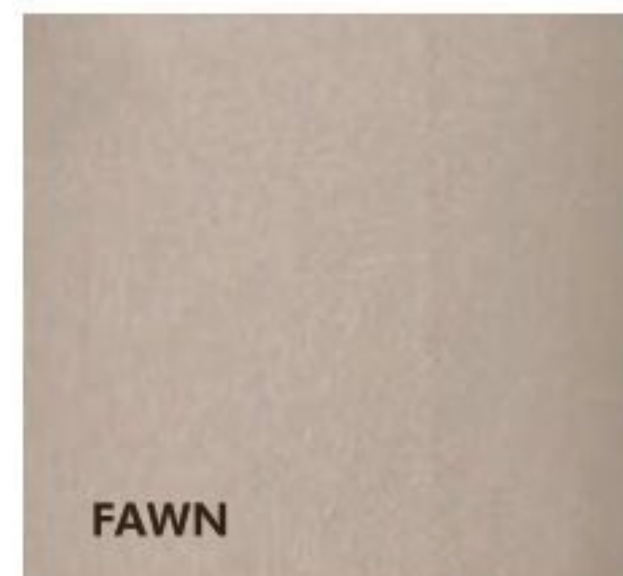
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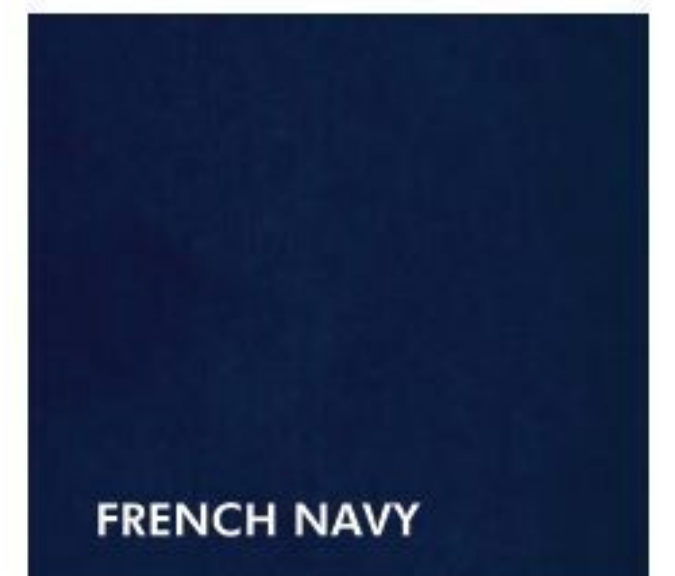
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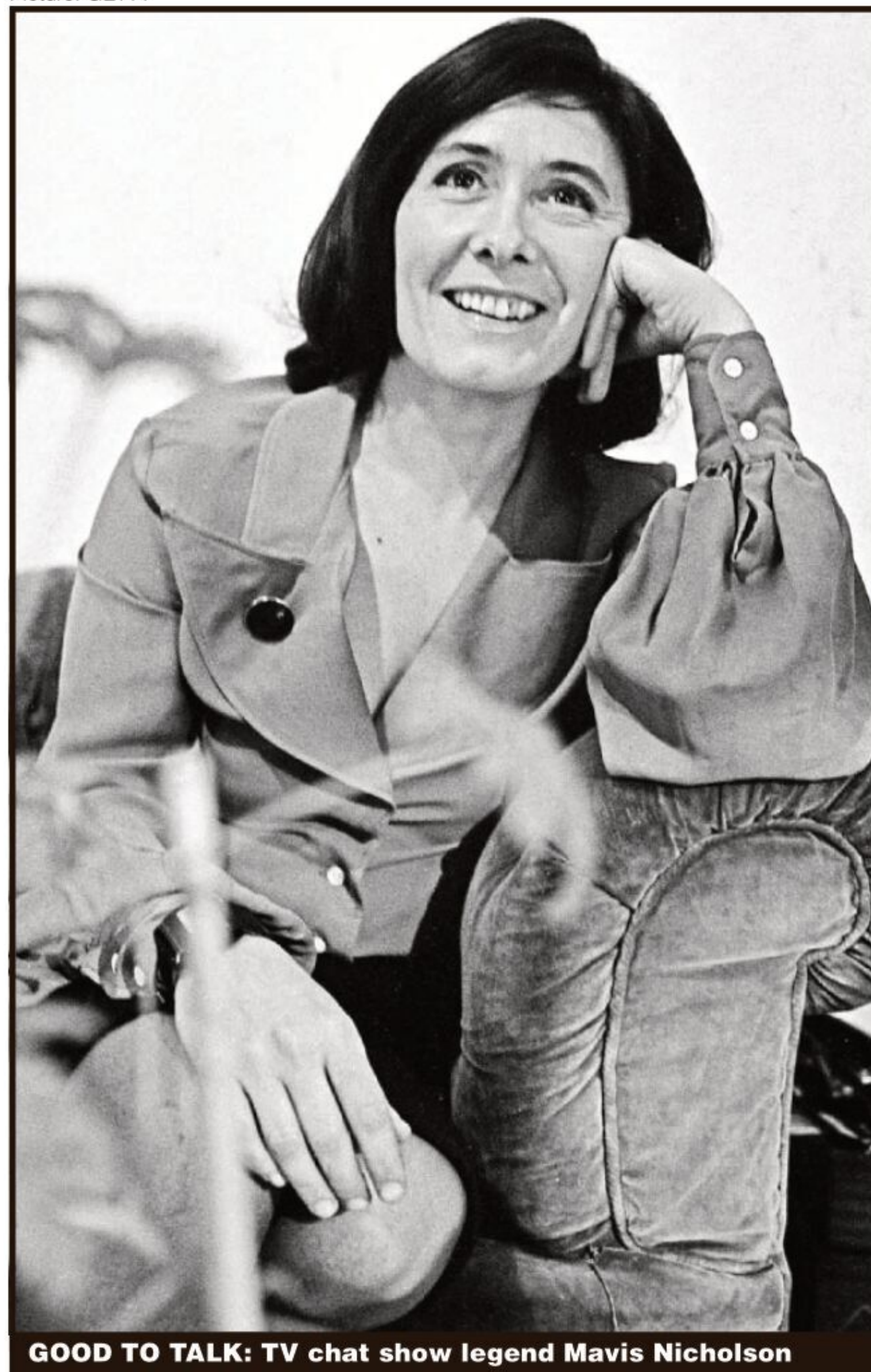

A doyenne of daytime television

Mavis Nicholson

Broadcaster and writer

BORN OCTOBER 19, 1930 – DIED SEPTEMBER 8, 2022, AGED 91

OFTEN described as the queen of TV interviews, Mavis Nicholson rose to prominence with an afternoon chat show on Thames Television in the early 1970s, called Tea Break, later renamed Good Afternoon.

She was 40 at the time, but effortlessly adopted the role of gentle inquisitor with relish and considered curiosity, becoming the doyenne of daytime television.

Among those who warmed to her was Elizabeth Taylor, who at that time was fast becoming Hollywood's big-screen goddess.

Kenneth Williams, David Bowie and Prince Philip all enjoyed lively interviews.

Mavis Mainwaring was born in a terraced house in Briton Ferry, Swansea, Wales. Her father worked as a crane driver at the large nearby steelworks. Her grandmother, Martha Jane, doted on her and was a gifted storyteller, who encouraged Mavis to speak confidently.

At the University of Wales in Swansea, she read English and met the writer and journalist Geoffrey Nicholson.

They married in 1952 and both trained as advertising copywriters and moved to London, where they became friends with the novelist Kingsley Amis.

While her husband became the sports editor of The Observer, she seemed content to be a housewife raising their children.

It was producer Jeremy Isaacs who became aware of her natural conversational manner and invited her to work in television.

After a short time, she was given her own show, Mavis... Wanting To Know. Former Prime Minister Ted Heath was among those invited for an interview.

In 1988 Channel 4 surprisingly ditched her show, Mavis On 4, which provoked an angry response. Some 1,000 letters of complaint were sent to the broadcaster and in 1991 she was given a show aimed at older viewers, Third Wave. ITV snapped her up, inviting her to present an afternoon show, Mavis Catches Up With... Lauren Bacall and Kirk Douglas were among many stars happy to entertain viewers with Hollywood tales.

And in 1993 Channel 4 gave her a platform for a series, Moments Of Crisis, where her empathetic and attentive style encouraged people stricken by hard times to tell their stories fully.

A lifelong socialist, she attended marches against nuclear weapons and always took the side of those who had suffered injustice.

Her husband died in 1999 and she is survived by their three sons, Lewis, Steve and Harry.

Picture: GETTY

GOOD TO TALK: TV chat show legend Mavis Nicholson

Kenneth Starr

US lawyer

BORN JULY 21, 1946 – DIED SEPTEMBER 13, 2022, AGED 76

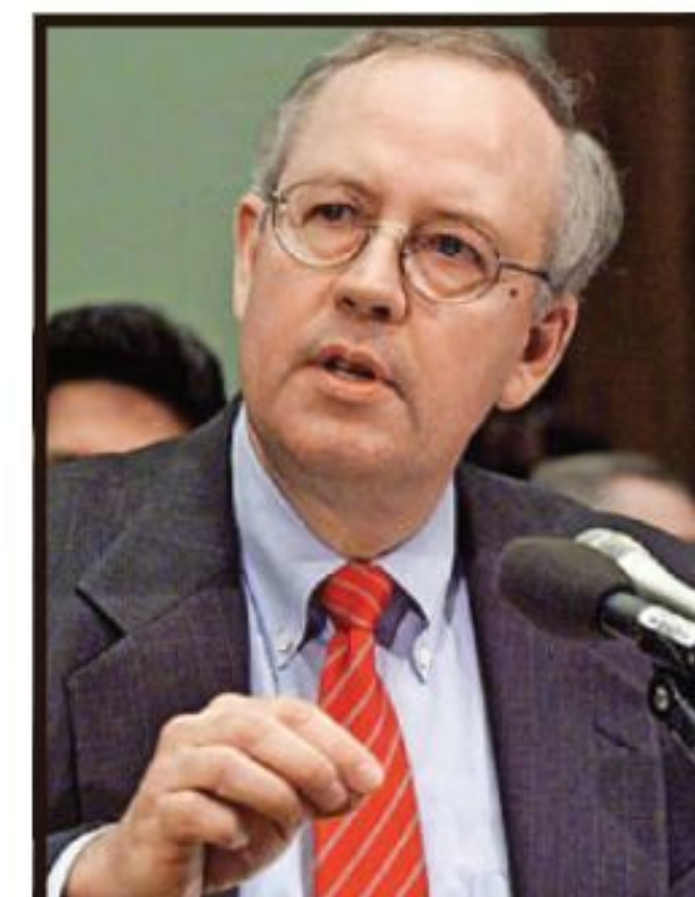
KENNETH Starr became one of the most loathed yet respected lawyers in the US when he exposed President Bill Clinton's affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

As the Independent Counsel he was appointed in 1994 to probe the suicide of White House deputy counsel Vince Foster and the controversial Whitewater investments of Bill and Hillary Clinton.

However, his brief was expanded to include Bill Clinton's relationship with Lewinsky in an investigation which lasted five years and cost a staggering $40million.

His report, published in 1998, pulled no punches.

The public learned of stains on Lewinsky's blue dress and how a cigar had featured in their affair.

Former White House secretary Linda Tripp handed over 22 hours of taped conversations to him. She even put on a wire to meet Lewinsky. Despite Bill Clinton famously saying. "I did not have sexual relations with that woman", all the evidence pointed to the opposite.

Clinton was impeached but later acquitted on both articles of impeachment, perjury and obstructing justice.

Kenneth Winston Starr was born in Vernon, Texas.

His political colours became clear at Sam Houston High School, where he distributed leaflets supporting Richard Nixon. He read law at Duke University. His greatest unfulfilled ambition was to be appointed to the Supreme Court as a judge, but following the Starr Report his reputation had been tarnished.

Starr returned to private practice and in 2020 was in the legal team which defended Donald Trump in impeachment proceedings. He is survived by wife Alice and their three children.

CLINTON CASE: Starr

Charles Swift OBE

Councillor

BORN JULY 2, 1930 – DIED AUGUST 16, 2022, AGED 92

CHARLES Swift met the Queen five times and while working as a railwayman drove her train twice.

He was a councillor in Peterborough for 62 years, firstly with Labour and then as an independent.

He was also elected Mayor of Peterborough aged 30 and was a former president of Peterborough United FC.

Born in Ossett, West Yorkshire, he worked for the London and North Eastern Railway. He started out as a cleaner and worked his way up to be a train driver.

In 1972 he welcomed Asians expelled from Uganda and offered them 50 council houses. He is survived by his wife Brenda and a daughter and four sons.

PM's son and banker to Queen

The Earl of Home

The Queen's banker

BORN NOVEMBER 20, 1943 – DIED AUGUST 22, 2022, AGED 78

THE Earl of Home was the late Queen's banker for many years and met her on numerous occasions to discuss the financial situation of the monarchy.

His father, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, gave up his hereditary title to become Prime Minister from 1963 to 1964, and his son became the 15th Earl of Home upon his death in 1995.

David Alexander Cospatrick Douglas-Home was the only son of Alec Douglas-Home and his wife Elizabeth.

The Earl of Home title had been created in 1605. As a nine-year-old boy, David was given special dispensation to be page to his father on Coronation Day in 1953.

Educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford, he was director of merchant bank Morgan Grenfell from 1974 until 1999, when he joined the private bank Coutts at their offices in the Strand, London.

He served as chairman until 2013 when he moved into the international branch of the bank until 2017.

During the premiership of John Major, the Earl was the Conservative Party's spokesman for trade and industry.

He also took a keen interest in Middle Eastern politics. When Iraqi forces were expelled from Kuwait in 1991, he was one of the first to visit the country to help with rebuilding the country's financial system.

The Earl married Jane Williams-Wynne in 1972 in a ceremony at St Margaret's Church, Westminster, followed by a reception at Banqueting House, Whitehall. The Queen herself gave permission for the venue to be used.

He enjoyed staying at the family estate at Coldstream on the Borders, where he was often seen fishing on the Tweed.

He is survived by his wife and their two daughters and a son, Michael, Lord Dunglass, who succeeds to the titles.

PEER: David Douglas-Home

Written by JAMES MURRAY

DREAM GARDENS

with ALAN TITCHMARSH

titchmarsh@express.co.uk

Top grass

UNITY Grass can work like a glue in schemes

Looking for an interesting way to finish your borders? Planting different types of grass could be just what you need

So I can't say I'm much of a fan of prairie planting – you know, that mixture of grasses and daisies that always seems to me to look like an overblown bit of Wyoming.

It may be heresy to say so, but I do think such schemes could often be improved by the swift application of a scythe. Or even a combine harvester.

But that is not to say I am not a fan of grasses. I most certainly am. The dwarf varieties make up our lawns and there is no doubt that grass is the best groundcover plant bar none.

In meadows, grasses have their own charm. But grasses really come into their own in the flower border, where they act as a wonderful kind of glue that gives unity to what would otherwise be spotty planting schemes.

Use them between bright flowers and they will soften colour clashes, or plant rivers of them between other plants and they will give a kind of airy bond. You can have grasses that are just an inch or so high – as in most lawns – or six feet high. The majority of good border grasses vary in height from the six inches of the blue-grey shaving-brush Festuca glauca to the chest-high zebra-striped fountains of fabulous Miscanthus sinensis 'Zebrinus'.

There is a retaining wall in my garden where I have created an 18in border planted with an assortment of grasses. It looks a treat from April right through to winter. I chop the whole lot back in March and start again, and the plants don't seem to mind a jot.

I could go on and on about grasses, just to prove that I find them hugely useful. Vast prairies might not inspire me, but as multitasking border plants I could not do without them.

COVER STAR Miscanthus

> "I chop the lot back and start again and the plants don't mind a jot"

USEFUL Soften colours

GARDENER'S DIARY

Your weekly gardening to-do list

- Snap yellowing lower leaves from tomato plants to increase air circulation and reduce disease risk. Still feed but gradually reduce watering now much of the fruit is picked and nights are cooler.
- Check early varieties of Brussels sprouts and leeks, plus autumn carrots, cauliflowers and calabrese. They should be ready to use from now onwards.
- Reduce feeding and watering of tuberous begonias, as flowering finishes and the plants prepare for winter rest.
- Move cold-tender conservatory plants and patio shrubs in as soon as the evenings turn cool – don't wait for the first frost.

PLANT of the week

Ornamental vines

Most people think there are two types of grape vines – those for eating and those for making wine. But there's a third, vines that have decorative leaves and edible fruit – and there are two top varieties.

Vitis vinifera "Purpurea" has deep red leaves that turn purple in the autumn, matching the bunches of small sweet grapes that ripen at the same time. "Brandt" has green leaves that take on bold orange and red autumn tints from now onwards, with bunches of small, sweet, black grapes.

Both of their fruits are small, tasty and sweet. In a good summer, they will ripen enough to make enjoyable eating as dessert fruit. If the summer turns out to be a dud, the fruits don't develop enough sugars, but they are still good for making wine.

SPOTLIGHT ON... growing garlic

Vampires beware – garlic cloves (the sort intended for planting as opposed to eating) are available in garden centres right now.

Garlic varieties fall into two basic groups. Softneck are the most popular. These produce a lot of smallish cloves that store well.

They are the earliest to be usable, ready as early as June, but only if they are planted in autumn. October is ideal as it gives them time to take root before winter sets in, but you can plant up to December. Softneck varieties include Early Purple Wight and Solent Wight.

Hardneck varieties, such as Lautrec Wight and Chesnok Wight, are often regarded by enthusiasts as the gourmet garlics. They have fewer but bigger cloves, but they don't keep well so need using soon after they are ready.

They can be planted in spring to avoid risk of rotting over winter, but autumn planting gives larger crops.

If you're worried about a dud winter, you could hedge your bets and delay planting dormant cloves outside until early spring. But your crop will be smaller and it won't be ready until much later in the season, perhaps August or September.

Be sneaky with garlic and start it under cover. Plant individual cloves in a small pot filled with a 50/50 mixture of John Innes Potting Compost No 2 and multipurpose compost. Keep them in a cold frame or greenhouse and plant them out in spring.

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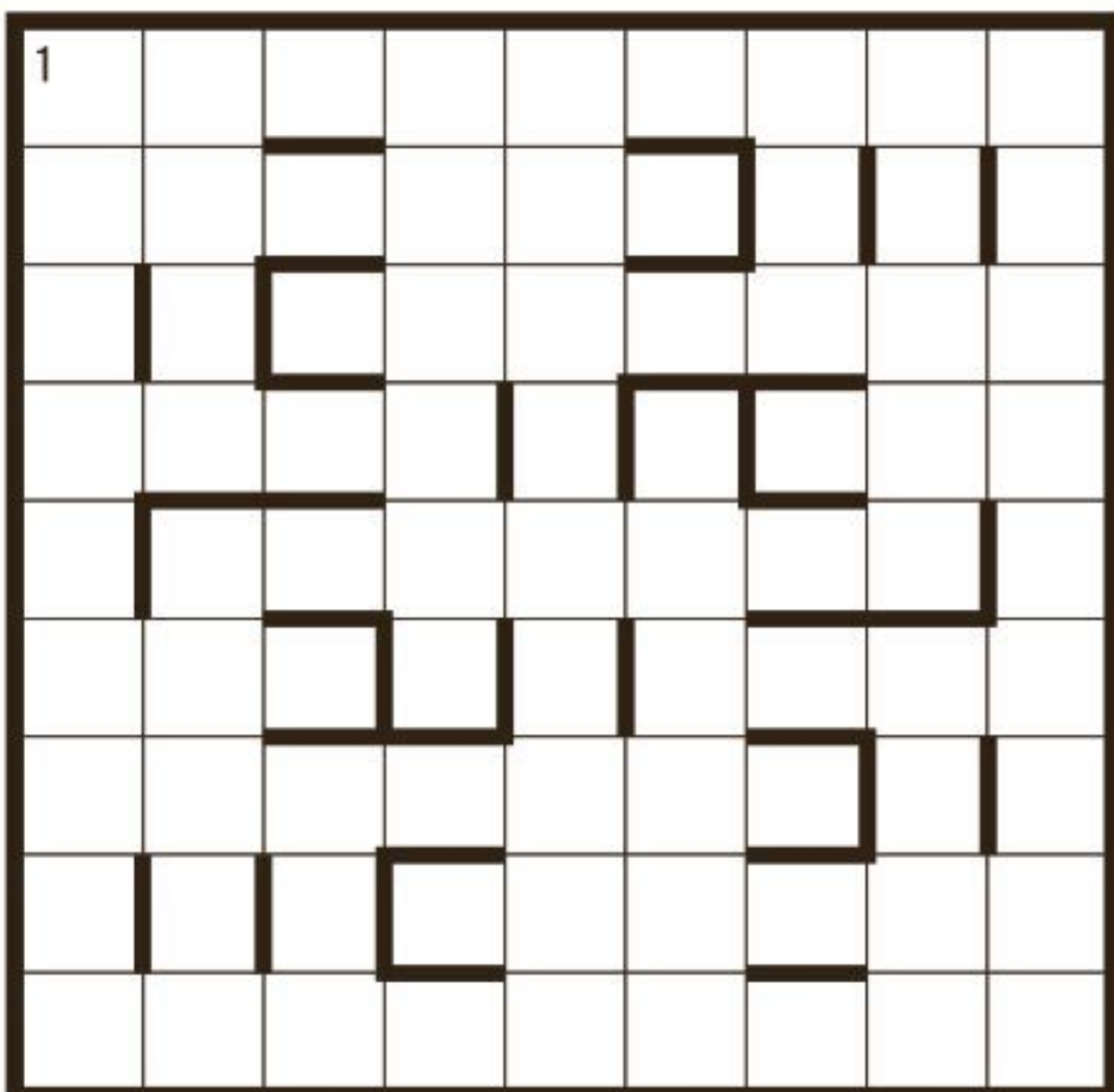
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8	10	23	16	14	18	■	19	■	■	1	■	14
■	12	■	■	19	■	13	1	14	5	26	14	5
24	2	14	3	21	■	1	■	■	■	3	■	10
10	■	■	■	24	7	19	9	■	■	11	■	21
1	■	24	7	14	■	25	■	7	12	9	■	11
11	■	12	■	■	6	12	3	18	■	■	■	24
2	■	24	■	■	■	14	■	4	10	19	24	2
12	21	13	19	23	16	24	■	3	■	■	10	■
5	■	14	■	■	14	■	6	11	17	17	1	14
14	22	23	12	24	14	■	■	5	■	■	19	■
■	■	2	■	■	13	19	24	24	20	10	3	5

A B ~~C~~ D E F G ~~H~~ I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
						H						

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
									C			

Alphapuzzle® tests logic and word power. Each grid number represents a letter. Every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter or letters – below the main grid – to start. **Solution next Saturday.**
Difficulty: 7/10 **Target:** 22 mins **Clue:** Tablets from afterthought holding equal.

THINKING SPACE

For up to six Extra Letter clues:
0907 181 2567
(deduct two minutes for each clue letter heard)
Alternatively, for six extra letter clues direct to your mobile, text **DSXALPHA** to **64343.** Texts cost £1 plus normal network operator rate.
Today's full solution: **0907 181 2566**
*Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.

Last Saturday's solution:
Across: Rattle, Barrel, Helpful, Douse, Vast, Squad, Oozed, Judo, Wreak (clue), Context, Sombre, Boring.
Down: Archive, Awash, Stylish, Seams, Fluff, Cookery, Eloquence, Cardiac, Envoy, Argue, Numeric, Flies, Hostage.

CAN YOU TACKLE THE EXTRA TOUGH ULTRA ALPHAPUZZLE® IN THE SUNDAY EXPRESS EVERY WEEK?

PENTALETTA

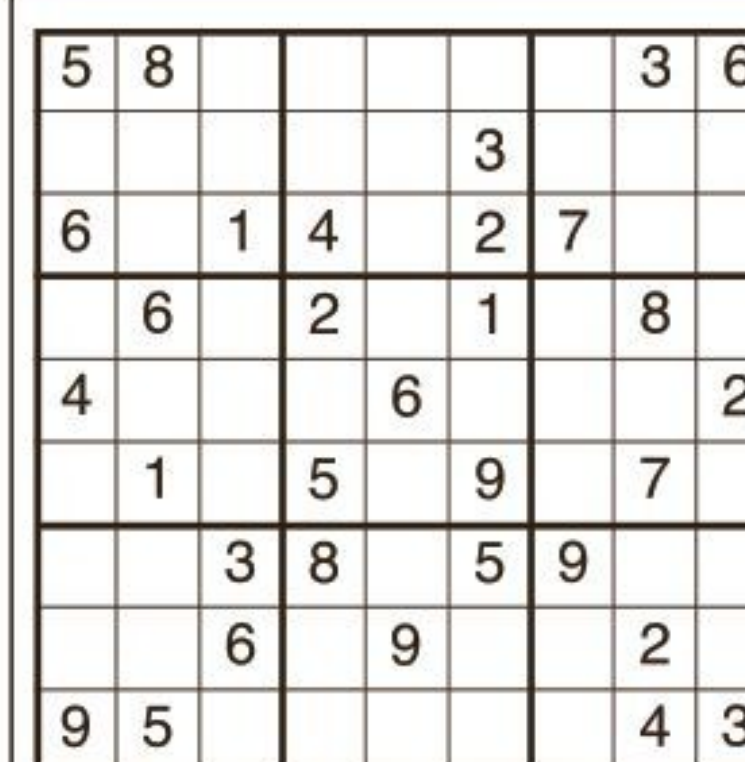
S		U
	L	
E		N

Can you find 25 or more words containing only the five letters shown on the left? Each word must include the letter in the centre, in this case L, and must contain at least four letters, but there is no limit on the number of times you can use a letter in any word. Your list should include an illogical nine-letter word.

Average mark: 18 words • **Good:** 23 words
Excellent: 27 words • **Incredible:** 30 words

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION anger, anna, arena, arrange, arranger, earn, earner, engage, enrage, erne, gang, ganger, gangrene, garner, gean, gene, genera, genre, gran, grange, green, greener, naan, nagger, nana, nanna, near, nearer, ranee, rang, range, ranger, rearrange, renege, reneger, reran.
The clued word was: GREENGAGE

SUDOKU

5	8						3	6
					3			
6		1	4		2	7		
	6		2		1		8	
4				6				2
	1		5		9		7	
		3	8		5	9		
		6		9			2	
9	5						4	3

Fill the grid so that every column, row, and 3x3 square includes all the digits from 1 to 9.
Level: Moderate
Target: 24 mins

LAST SATURDAY'S SOLUTION

1	4	2	3	6	7	5	9	8
3	5	9	4	1	8	6	7	2
8	7	6	5	2	9	3	4	1
7	9	4	8	3	1	2	5	6
5	6	1	9	7	2	4	8	3
2	3	8	6	5	4	7	1	9
9	8	7	2	4	6	1	3	5
4	2	5	1	8	3	9	6	7
6	1	3	7	9	5	8	2	4

For extra clues call:
0901 322 5603
*Calls cost 75p plus your telephone company's network access charge.
For today's full solution
call: 0907 181 2575
*Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.

FAITH, HOPE AND SUE Lisa Wild

SOMETIMES I FEEL THERE'S NOTHING TO GET UP FOR

EVERY DAY MUST FEEL LIKE THAT FOR YOU

RUPERT AND THE WHALE No 22

"To turn the tide's a tricky task!
I'll show you who you ought to ask."

To Rupert's dismay, the Merboy explains that King Neptune is away on a trip to the South Seas. "We'll have to ask the Tide Master to help" he declares. "I'll lead the way. while you both follow in your boat." "As Rupert wonders where they are going, Cap'n Binnacle gives a sudden cry. "Land ahoy! We're heading towards an island…" "Neptune's Isle!" calls their guide. "It's too small to show up on maps and so rocky that most folk never give it a second glance."

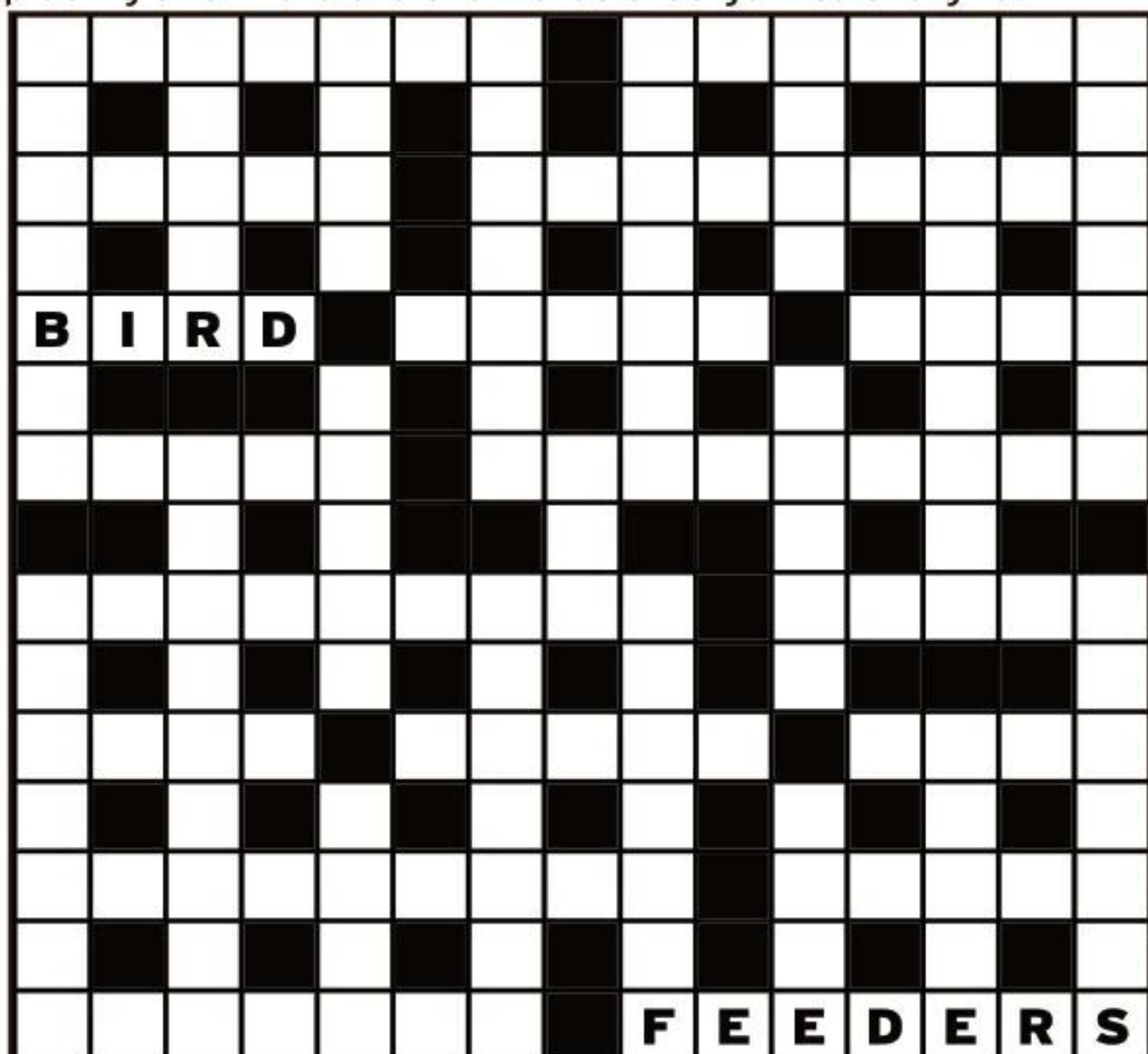
"This way!" he calls and swims off to
An island that comes into view.

THE SUNSHINE PUZZLE

The Sunshine Puzzle has been a firm favourite with readers of the Express for many years. All you need to do is find the correct home for the listed words. We have helped you by placing two. Here are the words that go into the grid:

EYE
AIRY
BIRD
DATE
DREW
PANT
REEF
SCAN
VAIN
AGATE
BACON
EXTRA
FATAL
IRATE
OVENS
SHAME
SOLID
STAIR
VALET
DESERTS
DISABLE
DISMISS
FEEDERS
SADNESS
SARDINE
SHYNESS
STABILE
SUCCOUR
SWEETIE
SYRINGE
TEA LEAF
CARPENTER
DINNER SET
EXTRADITE
IMITATIVE
RE-EXAMINE
TENTATIVE

B I R D

F E E D E R S

For today's solution call: **0907 181 2584**

**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

LAST SATURDAY'S SOLUTION

ACROSS Insect repellent, Upper hand, Hers, Opal, Science, Avocado, Van, Misrule, Drastic, Lei, Bravado, Fiction, Eyes, Ague, Exonerate, Half-heartedness. **DOWN** In the same breath, Emus, Tape, Earn, Exam, Lido, Table of contents, Reinstate, Plaything, Angular, Develop, Dandify, Romance, Serf, Bole, Tear, Sane, Aeon.

THE DAILY EXPRESS 30-SECOND CHALLENGE

TODAY'S ANSWERS: BEGINNER = 44; INTERMEDIATE = 35; ADVANCED = 18.

BATTLESHIPS

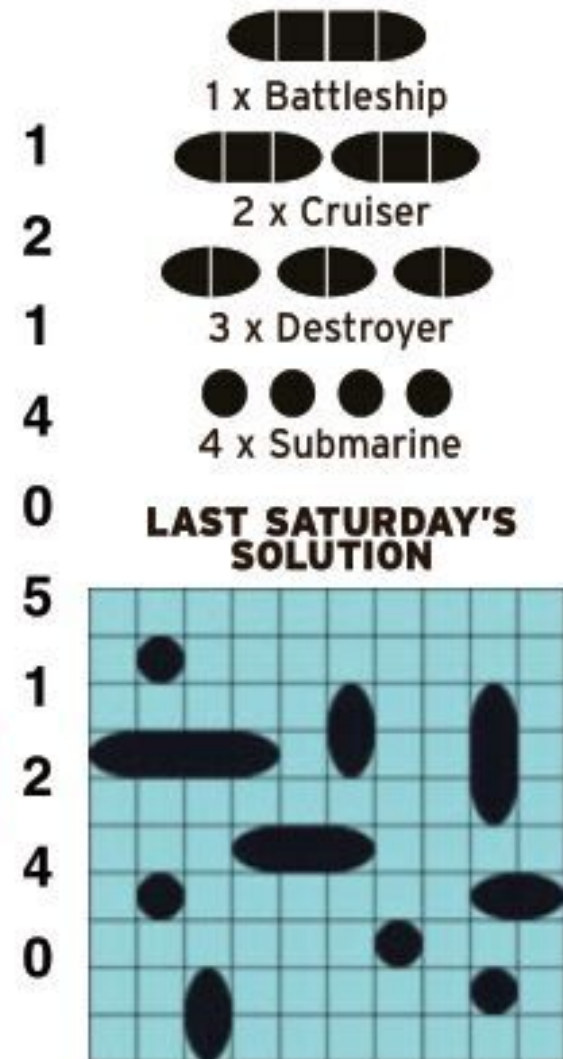
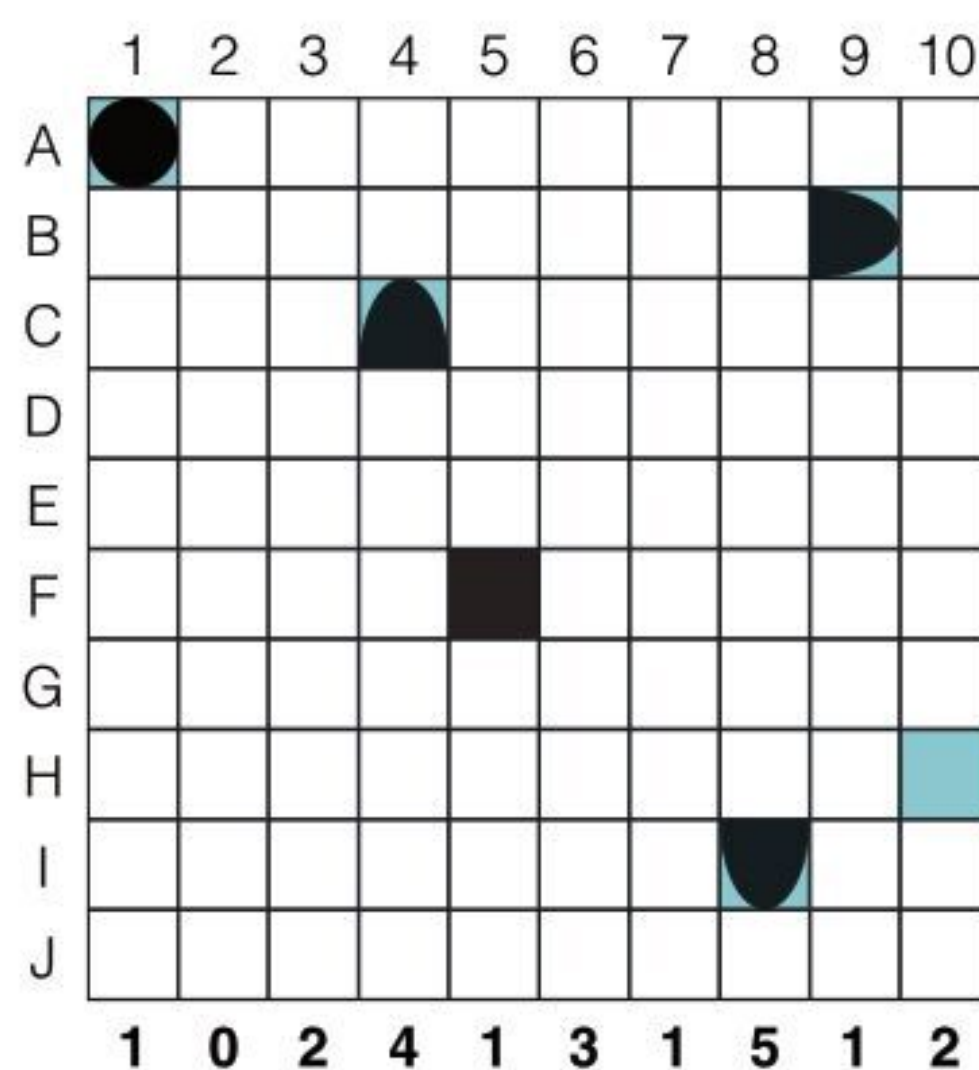
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
A											1
B											2
C											1
D											4
E											0
F											5
G											1
H											2
I											4
J											0
	1	0	2	4	1	3	1	5	1	2	

1 x Battleship

2 x Cruiser

3 x Destroyer

4 x Submarine

LAST SATURDAY'S SOLUTION

FIND where the fleet of ships shown is hidden in the grid. The numbers to the right of and below the grid indicate how many of the squares in that row are filled in with ships or parts of ships. The ships do not touch each other, even diagonally. Some squares have been filled in to start you off.

TARGET

C	D	T
O	I	A
I	N	T

HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters shown here? In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each must contain the centre letter and there must be at least one nine-letter word. No plurals. Verb forms ending in "s" permitted.

TODAY'S TARGET
Good 16; very good 24; excellent 31 (or more). Solution next Saturday.

LAST SATURDAY'S SOLUTION

alive arrive aver avert elver ever evert evil laver leave leaver lever live liver rave ravel raver relative relive **RETRIEVAL** reveal revel revert revile reviler rival rive river rivet riveter travel vale valet varlet veal veer veil velar vial vile viler viral vital

Call **0907 181 2586** for today's Target solution

**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge. All puzzles use The Chambers Dictionary*

SMALL CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Openly (8)
6 Not at home (4)
8 Pursue (5)
11 Not awake (6)
12 Region (4)
14 Dec's TV partner (3)
15 Metal fastener (5)
16 Purge (3)
17 To bridge (4)
19 Lethal (6)
20 Solid glass shape (5)
21 Container for flowers (4)
22 Neat pass (anag.) (8)

DOWN
1 Block of text (9)
2 Foundation (4)
3 Frozen treats (3,6)
4 Circuit (3)
5 Prison terms (9)
7 Fighter (7)
9 Curses (5)
10 Sabbaths (7)
13 Units of land measurement (5)
18 Scheme (4)
19 Perish (3)

For today's solution call: **0907 181 2583**

**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

LAST SATURDAY'S SOLUTION

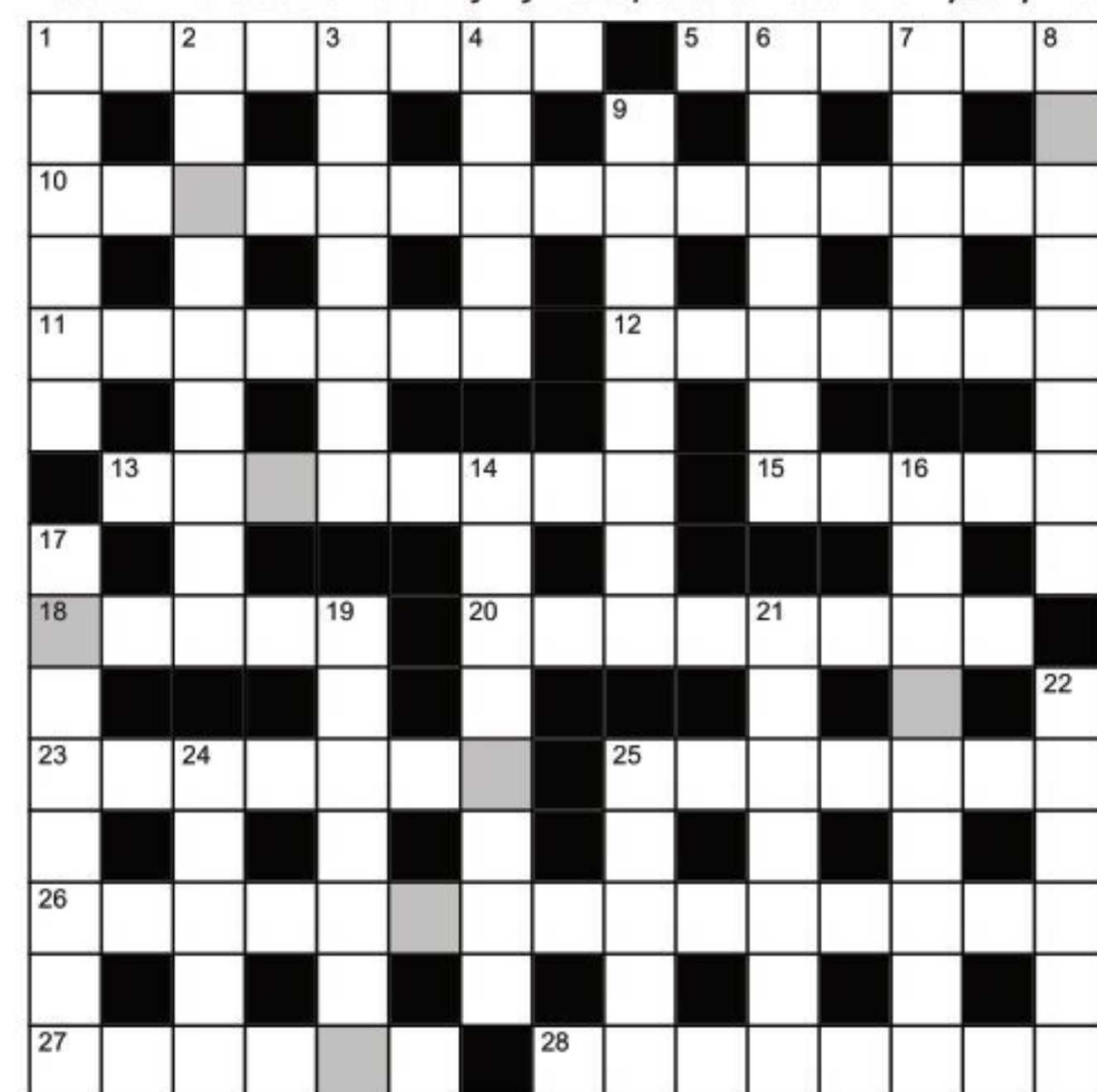
ACROSS 1 Handsome, 6 Area, 8 Least, 11 Easily, 12 Mats, 14 Art, 15 Ether, 16 Rim, 17 Swim, 19 Poetic, 20 Needs, 21 Open, 22 Farthest.
DOWN 1 Hammering, 2 Neat, 3 Slightest, 4 May, 5 Statement, 7 Realise, 9 Elves, 10 Service, 13 Stood, 18 Wipe, 19 Pea.

CRUSADER CROSSWORD

WIN £100

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN £100 CASH read down the letters in the highlighted squares to reveal the mystery word

ACROSS
1 Mother with vehicle on about round biscuit (8)
5 Admit defeat with present at university (4,2)
10 With fresh cheese, girl tours English county (15)
11 Social climber out of bed before kick-off (7)
12 One left by large loch with bug (7)
13 Arrive to collect chaps, 100, for start (8)
15 Saint, popular, covering up a mark (5)
18 Finished object found by journalist (5)
20 Revolution - not a riot, surprisingly (8)
23 Tap woman's kneecap (7)
25 Taking time, our first sightseer (7)
26 They even ran down excitedly occasionally (5,3,3,4)
27 European commercial set in pigpen and stable (6)
28 A dry hut's moved for this period of 24 hours (8)

DOWN
1 Silver, new, found in mother's bottle (6)
2 Angry promise to supply puzzle (9)
3 Calmer, I somehow recover (7)
4 Start on collection (5)
6 In Southern university, lieutenant's offensive remarks (7)
7 Former partner on island with the French expatriate (5)
8 Game bird breaking a past hen (8)
9 Grounds used by woman with blokes in group (8)
14 Storyteller, Northern, arriving with a short Conservative (8)
16 Bad soil he somehow got rid of (9)
17 Ambassador left quietly with a smaller amount, needing assistance (8)
19 Place featuring in act being postponed (7)
21 Rumbling noise coming from unfinished article below (7)
22 Overcharge youth leader, being mean (6)
24 That place is in another episode (5)
25 Teacher initially foolhardy? Rubbish! (5)

TO ENTER: Call **0904 161 3700** and leave your answer and details, or text **DXCRUS** followed by a space, your answer, name and address details to **88833**. Calls cost £1.50 plus your telephone company's network access charge. Texts cost £1.50 plus your standard network rate. Lines close at midnight tonight. Or send your grid containing the answer in the shaded squares by posting it to: Crusader Crossword, September 17, PO Box 12578, Sutton Coldfield B73 9BT. Entries must be postmarked by September 19 at the latest. SP: Spoke – 0333 202 3390. For any postal enquiries, call helpline number. An extra day is given for postal entries during bank holidays.

● *The winner will be the first random correct entry drawn from all entry routes after the closing date of September 22. The Editor's decision is final.*

NEED HELP? Call **0904 161 1609** for 5 extra clues!
Calls cost £1.50 plus your telephone company's network access charge.

NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

Crusader Crossword Winners

August 29: L Randall, Princes Risborough, Bucks; **August 30:** R Lyall, Bedminster Down, Bristol; **August 31:** A Saffin, Ruscombe, Reading; **September 1:** J Watson, Banff; **September 2:** A Wilson, Weymouth, Dorset; **September 3:** G Craig, Millfield, Sunderland; **September 4:** D Gould, Surrey.
Please allow 30 days for prizes to arrive

LAST SATURDAY'S SOLUTION

ACROSS 1 Leftover, 5 Scorer, 10 Standard poodles, 11 Largely, 12 Apparel, 13 Unstable, 15 Dress, 18 Theme, 20 Outdated, 23 Ransack, 25 Apropos, 26 Leonardo da Vinci, 27 Dieter, 28 Preserve.
DOWN 1 Lastly, 2 Fragrance, 3 Oddment, 4 Early, 6 Cropped, 7 Ruler, 8 Restless, 9 Apparent, 14 Blockade, 16 Eye-opener, 17 Startled, 19 Emanate, 21 Arrives, 22 Aspire, 24 Noose, 25 Adder. **Prizeword:** Repercuss.

THE ALPHABEATER

CAN you crack the Alphabeater? It's a tough twist on our popular Alphapuzzle, designed to stretch your mental muscles to the limit. Each grid number below represents a letter or a black square. As in Alphapuzzle, every letter of the alphabet is used. But now you have to complete the grid too! Use the given letters and the given black squares below the main grid to start.

To add to the fiendish fun, Alphabeater is 'rotationally symmetrical'. In other words the grid is the same if you turn the page upside down.

So, for example if there is a six-letter word Across which starts in the top left corner, there will be a corresponding six-letter word Across which ends in the bottom right corner square.

Every black square has a symmetrical 'twin' but the 'twin' may not always share the same number. This can help identify other black squares. Of course if the centre square is black it has no corresponding 'twin'. Solution next Saturday.

A B	22	14	1	21	19	18	19	29	19	31	14	26	39
C D	1	8	40	10	2	33	30	5	2	34	37	1	2
E F	19	35	37	24	7	15	20	8	34	5	21	36	31
G H	6	36	17	10	37	28	37	4	1	9	6	3	37
I J	36	14	10	29	35	18	21	27	36	18	34	15	5
K L	19	8	1	19	6	36	34	36	12	11	36	39	18
M N	30	20	2	28	34	27	10	39	37	24	9	1	6
O P	27	31	37	8	37	9	16	1	34	23	20	35	20
Q R	11	29	3	15	6	35	5	14	21	27	34	11	13
S T	19	38	7	22	1	34	40	11	32	10	40	23	37
U V	28	12	15	18	34	21	20	8	36	39	36	27	34
W X	13	20	36	33	37	15	25	37	16	34	1	18	2
Y Z	35	16	29	24	40	31	7	35	37	15	3	5	7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
					P	Y		M											
21	**22**	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26**	**27**	**28**	**29**	**30**	**31**	**32**	**33**	**34**	**35**	**36**	**37**	**38**	**39**	**40**
										■				■					

Target Time: 36 minutes

Today's full solution
0907 181 2557
Extra letter clues
0907 181 2559

Call for up to six extra letter clues. (Deduct three minutes for each extra letter heard.) Callers will also be given two black square numbers free of any target time penalty.

**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

Alternatively, for six Extra Letter clues direct to your mobile, text **DSXBEAT** to **64343.**

Texts cost £1 plus your usual operator rate.

LAST SATURDAY'S SOLUTION
Black squares: 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 15, 19, 22, 25, 28, 32, 33, 36.
Across: Maiden, Voyage, Cloud, Bop, Trustworthy, Frock, Cache, Extrapolate, Jar, Forty, Surety, Writhe.
Down: Maybe, Evens, Inept, Outdoor, Chunk, Fit, Mortarboard, Old, Crazy, Aquatic, Eject, Enjoy, Graze.

TRAVEL

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Torque of the town

REV ALERT Pagani near Modena

Petrolhead **James Robinson** visits Italy to ask how its supercar stars are adapting to an electric future

Emilia-Romagna could put forward an excellent case to be the cultural heartland of Italy. Parmesan cheese, balsamic vinegar, bolognese and Luciano Pavarotti himself all hail from this affluent region in northern Italy.

But if, like me, you are a petrolhead, there can be no doubt that this is the place to be.

Italy is of course famous for its flamboyant supercars; and almost all of them come from within a few miles of one another.

Modena, at the heart of Emilia-Romagna, is the birthplace of Enzo Ferrari, and the company is still based in Maranello just a few miles away. And so are Lamborghini, Maserati, Pagani and Ducati – all within easy driving distance of Modena itself.

On a tour, I got a peek inside the production lines – Ferrari and Ducati guarded their secrets closely, with no photographs allowed – while Pagani is less a factory (the company even tries to avoid the word) and more an artisan workshop.

The interior is designed to replicate a Renaissance square, complete with a working clock tower that strikes on the hour and calls the workers to lunch. It was unlike anything I had ever seen.

It's not just the companies themselves. Everywhere you go, there are names and places that will send shivers of excitement down the spine of those of us with unleaded coursing through our veins.

But we are a dying breed. More often than not, young people don't care how fast a car goes or how it makes you feel – they care about economy and environmental impact.

As Christopher Pagani, the son of founder Horacio Pagani and the company's head of marketing, points out: "We are

DREAM COME TRUE James checks out star cars

TURN TO PAGE 58

Cruise news

BY NIGEL THOMPSON

Dazzling Doha, host city for the 2022 football World Cup final, is the venue for the naming of MSC's most advanced environmentally focused ship.

The shimmering skyscrapers of the Corniche in Qatar's capital will be the backdrop when 6,762-passenger MSC World Europa is inaugurated at a glamorous A-lister ceremony on November 13. It also marks the debut of the city's brand new Grand Cruise Terminal, a state-of-the-art six-acre facility capable of handling up to 28,000 passengers a day and berthing two cruise mega-ships.

Afterwards, the 205,700 gross tonnage ship will remain in Doha to be used as a floating hotel for fans. Her maiden voyage will then be December 20 – two days after the final at Lusail Stadium – heading to Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Sir Bani Yas Island and Dammam in Saudi Arabia.

After a short season in the Persian Gulf, in March the greener-technology powered World Europa will reposition to the Med for voyages taking in Genoa, Naples, Sicily, Malta, Barcelona and Marseille. MSC says the €1billion ship boasts a "globally inspired urban design" and will offer "immersive guest experiences". msccruises.co.uk

Pitch up for a surprise trip

Book a surprise Feather Down Farms weekend staycation this autumn for £250 for two nights for up to five adults and one child.

Choose from more than 30 farms with canvas hideaways in the UK – the surprise is the destination will be revealed a week before travelling, but is guaranteed to be no more than three hours away. featherdown.co.uk/surprise-weekends

■ Camping and glamping for this summer was ramping up the most on Tuesday, August 9, says outdoors holiday platform Pitchup.com.

It peaked at one booking every six seconds with 95 bookings in a single 24-hour period at one campsite, a new record.

Saturday, August 27 was the busiest day of the summer, with 110,228 people holidaying via Pitchup.

Bookings for campsites in the UK from customers abroad have also grown – soaring 708% compared to 2021 and equivalent to 34,000 arrivals so far this year.

» More Iceland trips for winter 2023/24 are on offer at Jet2.com and Jet2CityBreaks.com with extra Land of Ice and Fire getaways now available to book from Belfast International, Birmingham, Bristol, East Midlands, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds Bradford, Manchester and Newcastle.

BIG DEAL

Tenerife for £577pp: Save £346pp on a seven-night, all-inclusive stay at Sol Tenerife, Playa de las Américas, departing from Luton on September 25. loveholidays.com

TRAVEL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 57

HORACIO'S HISTORY Pagani Museum

MOTOR CITY Modena, and its Ghirlandina Tower

petrolheads. But how many in the younger generation know the difference between a V6, a V8 and a V12?"

Not only that, but the EU has decreed that in just 13 years there will be a total ban on new petrol and diesel cars being produced in a bid to step up the battle against climate change.

This is a problem in Emilia-Romagna. As with all of Italy, tradition is hugely important. Mention spaghetti bolognese here and you will be treated with disdain – bolognese goes with tagliatelle, and you MUST twist your fork. As our tour guide told us, every time you cut pasta instead of twirling it "a grandmother in Bologna dies".

And it is tradition, particularly among Ferrari, Lamborghini and Pagani, to use a huge, powerful V12 petrol engine in their flagship models.

It is part of the DNA of these cars and seen as so important, and the turnaround to fully electric vehicles so short, that the Italian government tried to shield supercar makers from the petrol phase-out planned in 2035.

It seems to be a particular problem for the area's biggest name: Ferrari.

While Lamborghini is committed to being battery-only by 2030 and Pagani is used to innovation and perhaps less constrained by decades of tradition, Ferrari is yet to launch an all-electric car. An announcement, I was told, is expected in the near future.

SPECIAL Trattoria Da Me

More problematic for the prancing horse is the fact that everything that goes into its cars is hand-built and assembled on-site. However, there are no signs of a gigafactory to produce batteries for electric cars.

> **"We were told, every time you cut – not twirl – pasta a grandma in Bologna dies**

So how can history and tradition be reconciled with meeting regulations and protecting the planet?

The answer may lie, somewhat surprisingly, in food. After all, the two are intertwined in Emilia-Romagna – the area's rich agricultural history meant a lot of tractors, and the mechanics that worked on them soon found those skills were transferable to the far more exciting world of motorsport.

It's well documented that Italians are strict on their cuisine. Even a cappuccino after lunchtime is frowned upon.

But there are some out there who are putting an exciting twist on rules that are normally set in stone.

At Trattoria Da Me in Bologna, chef Elisa has combined the Italian staples of cheese and gelato to create something unmissable and unique. It sounds crazy, but you only have to try it to see why they've done it.

Another of Emilia-Romagna's most famous sons is Massimo Bottura, a legendary chef consistently named among the world's best.

Getting a seat at his three-Michelin-star restaurant in Modena is almost impossible but I was lucky enough to sample a six-course meal created by him at Motor Valley Fest's gala dinner.

Bottura is known for putting a twist on traditional dishes, and Strawberry Fields – combining traditional risotto with strawberries and champagne – was the first time I've tasted a mix of strawberry and sausage. It was one of the best things I've ever eaten.

So while tradition and history are important to Italians, they are happy to break both when there is innovation done to a high standard. And innova-

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Fuel's paradise

ITALIAN LUXURY Ferrari Museum

TOP SECRET Ducati factory

tion is key at Pagani – the region's youngest hypercar maker. Its two models – the current Huayra and the legendary Zonda – look more like spaceships than road cars.

And while Christopher Pagani has a hint of sadness as he talks about a petrol-less future, he says they will adapt: "We've always been looking at the possibilities to do things in the market which aren't there.

"When the company started 25 years ago it was about using carbon fibre that was only used on race cars.

"A lot of other companies in the area didn't understand this was a possibility. When my father started everybody thought he was crazy. But he has always been a visionary.

"It is a tricky moment in history. You don't know what to follow, what to do. Electric cars, the solutions they use make the package very heavy.

"There is space to create something very customised, very engaging that still has the fun. The sound is hard, it's the trickiest part."

Proponents of electric cars will point out that the latest electric hypercars have straight-line performance that outstrips even the most advanced petrol cars.

They may be right. But as I was strapped into a 670bhp Ferrari 488 car at the Autodrome di Modena, the last thing on my mind was more power.

This was a dream come true for me, and a huge part of that was the sound, the vibrations and the emotion that comes from a bellowing twin-turbo V8 a few inches behind your ear. It was one of the greatest experiences of my life. Anyone can do this (providing their pockets are deep enough) and it is a sensation unlike any other. Would it be the same in an electric car? Having never driven one, it is difficult to say.

What I will say is this – just because something is necessary for the greater good, it does not mean we cannot mourn its passing.

When last petrol car rolls off the production line, I will raise a glass of Emilia-Romagna's finest Lambrusco and quietly lament its passing.

But I feel certain Italy's innovators will have found a way to make future cars as beautiful, exciting and passionate as those of years gone by.

Milan
EMILIA-ROMAGNA
MODENA
Bologna
Florence

BOOK IT

Rooms at the ResArt Iàcomus hotel in Bologna start at £78 a night on a room-only basis. resart-iacomus.bologna-hotels.net/en

■ Rooms at the Best Western Premier Milano Palace Hotel in Modena start at £215 a night B&B. milanopalacehotel.it

GET THERE

Flights to Bologna operate from Edinburgh, Gatwick, Heathrow, Luton, Manchester and Stansted.

MORE INFO

motorvalley.it
emiliaromagnaturismo.it

WHERE CARS ARE STARS..

MUSEO FERRARI, MARANELLO – half an hour outside of Modena, and packing some of the world's most iconic cars. ferrari.com/it

LAMBORGHINI MUSEUM – the same distance from Modena, feast your eyes on the car world's greatest bedroom wall posters from Italy's maddest car maker. lamborghini.com

PAGANI AUTOMOBILI – around 20 minutes from Modena is Emilia-Romagna's newest supercar maker, but one that established itself as a household name. pagani.com

OUT OF THIS WORLD Pagani Zonda

Travel test

BY TANVEER MANN

WHAT: Norse Atlantic Airways economy on the Boeing 787 Dreamliner

WHERE: Flight NO 701 from Gatwick to New York JFK, from £303 return. flynorse.com

EXPERIENCE: So long as you manage your expectations before flying, this flight is very pleasant and won't break the bank.

Norse offers two cabin choices, Economy and Premium. As part of the economy package you can choose from a simple range of fares, Light, Classic and Plus.

Light fares are Norse's value option which includes hand luggage only with no added extras. If you fancy a meal, you can buy it from the onboard menu offering hot and cold food.

Passengers in both economy and premium are treated to the same hot meal during the flight.

Additional extras such as a blanket or headphones are also available to purchase, but you could just bring your own.

Alternatively, you can choose to go for the Economy Classic option, which actually works out cheaper if you're planning to add meals and checked-in luggage as these are included in your price.

And if you are not quite sure of your plans, Economy Plus gives you the flexibility to change flights.

I went for the Classic option and, despite the plane's capacity to hold 301 passengers, the flight didn't feel busy like some long-haul flights do. The sheer space the Boeing 787 Dreamliners offer means you've got ample room.

The legroom is as expected in economy – a squeeze if the person in front of you has reclined, but otherwise a pleasant experience, thanks to the inflight entertainment.

Thankfully, you can watch movies before you've even taken off, handy if your flight is delayed. It also seems they've chosen quality over quantity, as despite not having a vast choice, I was impressed to see new movies such as 2022's Marry Me on offer.

Quibbles: No wi-fi is a downside. Legroom is also a small quibble if you're the unfortunate person tucked into a window seat with a reclined seat in front of you!

Verdict: You get what you pay for – good value, a comfortable flight and a good selection of food and drink to buy if you want it. Overall, a solid **8/10**.

TRAVEL

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BIG DEAL

Kefalonia for £299pp: Relax on a seven-night, B&B stay at the three-star Pacifae Golden Village in Katelios, departing from Bristol on October 9. Includes 22kg baggage allowance and transfers, jet2holidays.com

Vote to win a Thailand trip

BY **NIGEL THOMPSON**

If a luxury beach break in exotic Thailand appeals, then join in the 2022 UK holiday "Oscars" and it could be yours.

BRITISH TRAVEL AWARDS 21/22

Public voting for the prestigious British Travel Awards is on until October 2, with 67 categories covering a range of products and services.

To thank you for taking part in the nation's largest consumer-voted programme, all voters are entered in a draw for a getaway giveaway jackpot worth around £45,000.

Included in the bonanza is a Blue Bay Travel (bluebaytravel.co.uk) seven-night room-only trip for two people to the five-star X10 Khaolak Resort at Bang Niang Beach, where two restaurants, five swimming pools and a tranquil spa await.

The prize is worth £1,000, though flights are not included and T&Cs apply.

HOW IT WORKS

Register your vote online at britishtravelawards.com and vote in as many of the 67 categories as you like.

Only one vote is OK, for example, and you can return to the form to make changes up to October 2. Full T&Cs are there too.

Look out on Twitter for updates at @BritTravAwrds #BTA2122 @TravelEdNigel

Buy of the week

BY **NIGEL THOMPSON**

A useful option if you travel to EU countries a lot – it's powered by the Three network, is 5G-enabled device ready, and comes with free roaming for calls and texts to the UK and up to 12GB of data.

SMARTY Simple, honest mobile

The one-month plans can be cancelled at any time and also include wi-fi calling.

■ **SMARTY mobile sim only, from £6 a month, smarty.co.uk**

Get into the spirit

REVAMP Glass pavilion

HOT HOTEL
Hotel Chais Monnet & Spa, Cognac, France

BY **BYRON MELTON**

ELEGANT Luxury rooms

MAGICAL Les Foudres

VIBE

Five-star Hotel Chais Monnet and Spa is set quietly off the road to Cognac's town centre, down a long driveway.

Courtyard gardens and trickling ponds give the entrance a calming influence, while each room inside is an opulent haven away from everyone and everything.

Staff are a pleasure to be around and make it a real treat staying in the best hotel in town.

STYLE

Chais Monnet's 92 rooms elegantly marry traditional French luxe and modern design. Some tell a story, too, thanks to 180-year-old wood beams from the site's days as a cognac cellar.

Expect bespoke Fragonard toiletries, marble bathroom details and oak parquet floors. Elsewhere, communal areas are a canvas for up-and-coming local artists to display their work. The talent on show changes every six months.

> "Rooms tell a story, with beams from the site's days as a cognac cellar

FOOD AND DRINK

Chais Monnet has two restaurants – La Distillerie and Les Foudres.

The former, decorated in rustic, industrial style, is your safe bet for a relaxed dinner.

Main course options here are hearty and classically French – and the desserts, naughtily rich.

Order the crunchy milk chocolate and praline and all your sweet-treat dreams will come true.

Les Foudres, which translates as The Barrels, is a Michelin-starred tour-de-force. At sunset, rays drench its cathedral-like facade to give its dining rooms a magical glow.

Inside, new head chef Paolo Boscaro's tasting menu is nothing short of an ascension.

He injects his Italian heritage into flavour combinations you never knew worked so well, such as lobster and peach, and gnocchi and orange.

For breakfast help yourself, or order an incredible trunk of treats straight to your room.

SPA

Chais Monnet's spa offers treatments lasting from 30 minutes to an indulgent four hours using products from KOS Paris and Olivier Claire.

Salt and sugar scrubs, deep-tissue massages and facial treatments are all on the menu – and there's even options for younger guests.

When you've visited the thundering jacuzzi, hammam, sauna and sensory shower, a tropical-warm relaxation room awaits, with hot and cold teas.

WHAT TO DO

A clear retractable roof makes Chais Monnet's indoor/outdoor pool a must, whatever the weather. Follow your dip with a peaceful sunset stroll around the grounds to take in the hotel's stunning looks – the old cognac warehouse enjoyed a £60million revamp back in 2018.

The new glass pavilion above the swimming pool is striking, but the mansion-turned-office in the front garden is by far the prettiest photo stop.

Before or after dinner, saunter to the hotel's uber-cool 1838 Jazz Bar to sample one of its 200-plus cognacs.

If you're unsure, ask for it instead of whisky in a cocktail of your choice, or opt for a game-changing cognac espresso martini.

A DAY OUT

Trips to local distilleries are the best way to get the most out of Cognac and its lush, rolling backdrop.

Follow the serene Charente river on foot to begin your education at Hennessy.

Its slick interactive tour (from £21.20, hennessy.com) will sow the seed for your love of cognac, spanning the brand's journey from Irish family business to a global superpower.

Next, weave through green fields in one of Chais Monnet's adorable Citroen 2CVs (available to rent for guests at 90€ for half a day and 160€ for a day) to Renaud de Champ Contre.

Led by Bertrand and Sabine de Witasse, passion abounds at this family distillery.

They earn 80% of their income from the cognac they produce for Remy Martin, providing freedom to distil their own labour of love, Cognac Raison Personnelle.

Le Baume de Bouteville, 25 minutes east, is also worth a trip to see how a tiny team uses cognac to make vinegars loved by top French chefs.

And grab some rural je ne sais quoi, park the 2CV in a quiet vineyard for a very French trunk picnic.

OPEN UP Outdoor/ indoor pool

COGNAC
Bay of Biscay
FRANCE
Bordeaux
20 MILES

BOOK IT

Rooms at Hotel Chais Monnet and Spa in Cognac, France, start from around £225 a night on room-only. chaismonnethotel.com/en

GET THERE

Flights are available from airports across the UK to Bordeaux or La Rochelle.

MORE INFO

uk.france.fr/en

MOTORING

Edited by COLIN GOODWIN

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VW'S ID.5 TAKES A TURN FOR THE WORSE

Very few electric cars are actually fun to drive. Usually they're too heavy with dulled responses, though BMW's i4 and Renault's Megane E-Tech hatchback are notable exceptions.

This will no doubt change in the future as batteries are made lighter and more efficient but, for now, many new EVs are pretty unrewarding behind the wheel.

However, few are as poor as the new Volkswagen ID.5 we're testing this week.

Its unladen weight is 2,117kg and that's about par for course for an electric SUV of these dimensions. But what really makes this car poor to drive is its steering which is overly stiff and has very little feel.

In fact, it is possibly the worst I've experienced in a vehicle since the power steering belt snapped in my old Chevrolet pick-up truck.

The ID.5 is a coupe version of the ID.4 SUV. There's a high-performance version of the car called the GTX which has two electric motors with a combined power output of 295bhp. It has a top speed of 114mph and does 0-62mph in 6.3sec.

The regular ID.5, which we're testing, has a single electric motor with either 174PS or 204PS (ours has the latter) and the same 77kWh hour battery as the GTX. Its range is impressive at 313 miles and indications from our test drive are that it will achieve 300 miles on a charge if you're careful.

Cars with the lower output motor are called Performance and those with the 204PS motor Pro Performance.

There are three trim levels running through Style, Tech and Max. Ours is in Tech trim which means a price without options of £54,640 – so not cheap.

When you bear that in mind, the ID.5's interior trim is rather disappointing. I'm not one of those critics who's fixated by plastic hardness and scratchy surfaces, but it has to be said that some of the materials used on the dashboard and door cards do not look or feel as though they belong on a car at this price point.

If you have read any of our previous tests of recent Volkswagen Group cars you would know we are less than impressed by the infotainment systems they offer.

The current version, as used on this car, has far too many touch sensitive buttons, not enough analogue controls and requires the driver to spend too much time within the screen to control simple functions.

If you're a regular reader you'll have heard me banging on about it before but I'll stop criticising VW's current system when it's replaced with something more usable.

Despite the sloping rear bodywork that gives the car its coupe-like tail, the ID.5 is not short on headroom for passengers in the back. There's plenty of leg and shoulder room, too.

Surprisingly, the boot is actually bigger than the luggage space in the ID.4 with 549 litres against the boxier ID.4's 543 litres.

That sloping roof does have some effect though because the capacity with the seats down is 1,561 litres, which is a reduction of 95 litres on the other car.

The ID.5 feels as though it has a stiffer ride than the ID.4 and I don't remember that car having such a compromised steering feel, either.

Unless you are grabbed by the ID.5's more curvaceous rear-end styling then I don't see a reason for choosing one over the cheaper and better ID.4.

THE FACTS

Volkswagen ID.5 Tech Pro Performance four-door coupe

Price: £54,640
Engine: Single electric motor, 204bhp
Battery: 77kWh
0-62mph: 8.4sec
Range: 313 miles

email: city@express.co.uk
Visit City & Business pages online
at www.express.co.uk/city
Tel: 020 8612 7156

City & Business

AT A GLANCE

STOCK MARKET

FTSE 100	7236.7	▼	-45.4
FTSE 250	18797.1	▼	-89.2
FTSE ALL SHARE	3976.7	▼	-23.7
Shares Traded	6705.9 million		

POPULAR SHARES ON THE RISE

Lloyds Banking Group	47¾	+¼
National Grid	1036	+1½
Sainsbury (J)	202¾	+1

POPULAR SHARES UNCHANGED

HSBC Holdings	529½
Saga	160

POPULAR SHARES ON THE SLIDE

Abrdn	144¼	-½
AstraZeneca	10122	-8
Aviva	440	-2½
BAE Systems	764¾	-10
Barclays	171¼	-1
BP	452	-4½
BT Group	139	-2
Centrica	80¾	-1
GSK	1321½	-16¼
Int Consolidated Airlines	106	-2½
Marks & Spencer Group	114¼	-1½
NATWEST GROUP	273	-1¼
Rolls-Royce Holdings	75¾	-1
Royal Mail	229¾	-20¼
Shell	2296½	-18
Tesco	231½	-½
Unilever	3944	-25½
Vodafone Group	108¼	-1

WORLD MARKETS

WALL STREET	30,822.4	▼	-139.4
TOKYO	27567.7	▼	-308.3
HONG KONG	18761.7	▼	-168.7
GERMANY	12741.3	▼	-215.4
FRANCE	6077.3	▼	-80.5

STERLING VALUE

Dollar	1.141	▼	-0.006
Yen	163.042	▼	-1.495
Euro	1.139	▼	-0.008

DOLLAR VALUE

Dollar/Yen	142.950	▼	-0.5308
Dollar/Euro	0.999	▼	-0.0012

COMMODITIES

GOLD($)	▲	1674.50
KRUGERRAND(£)	▲	1468.94
SILVER(pence)	▲	1699.78
BRENT CRUDE($)	▲	91.55

OTHER INDICATORS

Base rate	1.75%
Halifax mortgage rate	3.71%
Retail Price Index	+12.3% (CPI +10.1%)
House price Index	+7.8%
Unemployment	1,294,000

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TOURIST'S POUND

Australia	1.65 dollar
Canada	1.47 dollar
China	7.42 renminbi
Czech Rep.	26.08 koruna
Denmark	8.08 krone
Eurozone	1.12 euro
Hong Kong	8.43 dollar
Hungary	434.05 forint
Israel	3.70 shekel
Japan	155.89 yen
Mexico	21.62 peso
New Zealand	1.84 dollar
Norway	11.17 krone
Poland	5.10 zloty
Russia	69.73 ruble
Saudi Arabia	4.06 riyal
South Africa	19.23 rand
Sweden	11.68 krona
Switzerland	1.07 franc
Thailand	39.92 baht
Turkey	19.41 lira
United States	1.12 dollar

Retailers suffer poor sales as shoppers rein in spending

By **Graham Hiscott**

THE pound tumbled to a 37-year low against the dollar yesterday, dubbed "Bleak Friday" by City experts.

The drop came as retailers suffered a worse than expected fall in sales last month as the cost-of-living crisis hit household spending.

Fears for a recession were stoked as sterling fell to $1.13, the lowest since 1985. It also hit a 19-month low against the euro.

Susannah Streeter, senior investment and markets analyst at broker Hargreaves Lansdown, said: "It's Bleak Friday for the pound amid worries the UK has hurtled into recession, as the cost-of-living crisis intensifies and confidence in the Government's ability to prompt an economic turnaround fades."

RETAIL CRISIS: Spending is falling

The drop came on the 30th anniversary of Black Wednesday, when the UK had to withdraw from the European Exchange Rate Mechanism.

Ms Streeter added: "Three decades on, Black Wednesday has a new rival in the notoriety stakes for the pound."

The Office for National Statistics revealed retail sales dropped last month by 5.4 per cent year-on-year. Economists had been predicting a 3.7 per cent drop.

Soaring household bills, including energy, mean shoppers have been forced to make cutbacks elsewhere.

Sales by volume dropped by 1.6 per cent between July and October, the biggest decline so far this year and much larger than the 0.5 per cent fall predicted.

Danni Hewson, financial analyst at broker AJ Bell, said: "People are clearly thinking hard about what they spend their money on."

Most major currencies have been struggling against the dollar in recent months, although the pound has fared badly.

Markets predict the Bank of England will raise its base rate from 1.75 per cent to 2.25 per cent next week to cool inflation – 0.25 per cent less than expected.

Chancellor Kwasi Kwarteng is due to reveal the estimated cost of the energy price freeze in a mini-budget next Friday.

DIY CRAZE MAY BE OVER DUE TO INFLATION

Pictures: GETTY

AIMING HIGH: B&Q enjoyed strong trade during the Covid crisis

B&Q owner Kingfisher will announce its half-year results on Tuesday, when it will be revealed if soaring inflation has hammered the lockdown era DIY craze.

The company, which also owns Screwfix, enjoyed strong trade as people spruced-up their homes during the Covid crisis, with the trend continuing after restrictions were first lifted. Investors will also be watching to see if Kingfisher still expects to hit previous adjusted profit guidance of £770million for the full year.

Susannah Streeter, from broker Hargreaves Lansdown, said: "DIY projects aimed at carving out working environments at home are likely completed."

Capita offshoot bought for £150m

OUTSOURCING group Capita has agreed to sell payments arm Pay360.

The firm processes online transactions for its 2,500 customers, which include councils and schools.

It is being bought by business software provider The Access Group for £150million. Capita says the sale will "reduce indebtedness and provide additional liquidity". UK-based Pay360 handled £8.6billion in 142 million transactions last year.

Capita chief executive Jon Lewis said: "The sale is a great opportunity for the new owners to help Pay360 realise its full potential."

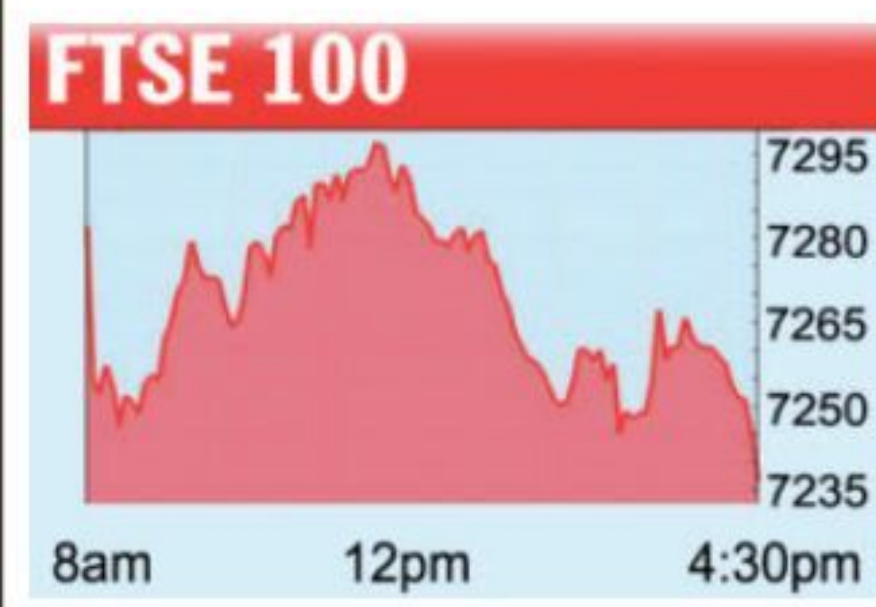
Naked Wines ex-boss returns

FORMER Naked Wines chief executive Rowan Gormley is back as an adviser to the troubled online firm.

Shares have plunged 85 per cent this year. They tumbled again this week as director Pratham Ravi left after just three weeks. One analyst said "something has gone awry" at Naked Wines. The board promised to update shareholders on a turnaround plan next month.

Chairman Darryl Rawlings said: "I welcome Rowan providing his insight to us because his operational familiarity with the business will provide a valuable perspective."

++ THE FTSE 100 THE FTSE 100 THE FTSE 100 ++

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
3i Group	1134	+2	1503½	1059
A.B. Foods	1324½	-8	2131	1313
Abrdn	144¼#	-½	264	141½
Admiral Group	2272#	+10	3524	1729
Airtel Africa	135¾	-3¼	171	93¼
Anglo American	2818½#	+3	4170½	2470½
Antofagasta	1133½#	-18	1781½	991½
Ashtead Group	4262	-40	6450	3359
AstraZeneca	10122	-8	11440	8063
Auto Trader	614¼#	-6½	741¾	499½
Aveva Group	3052	+27	4032	1924
Aviva	440#	-2½	603	382¼
B&M Europ Value Ret	337½	-7½	644	336
BAE Systems	764¾	-10	838½	528¾
Barclays	171¼#	-1	217	140½
Barratt Development	429	+4¾	760	406½
Berkeley Grp Hldgs	3595	+3	4903	3447
BP	452#	-4½	463¼	303¾
British Amer.Tob	3450½	+15½	3628	2512½
British Land	410	+1¾	556½	394¼
BT Group	139	-2	201	135¼
Bunzl	2737	-14	3163	2397
Burberry Group	1724	-5½	2063	1482
Centrica	80¾	-1	91	50¾
Coca-Cola HBC	1920	-18	2687	1460½
Compass Group	1875	-50½	1969½	1440
CRH	3082½#	-6½	4002	2756½
Croda International	6430#	-138	10410	5908
DCC	4717	-118	6486	4717
Dechra Pharmaceuticals	2950	-138	5365	2940
Diageo	3745#	-18½	4103½	3343
DS Smith	265½	-9	458¾	260½
Electrocomponents	1040	-16	1255	812
Endeavour Mining	1661#	+5	2100	1510
Entain	1213#	-20½	2377	1075½
Experian Group	2661	-26	3667	2285
Flutter Entert.	10320	-70	15890	7614
Fresnillo	730	-1¼	986¾	622½
GlaxoSmithKline	1321½#	-16¼	2263	1321
Glencore	489¼#	-12¾	541½	312
Halma	2000	-38	3216	1876½
Hargreaves Lansdown	854½	+4	1598	762½
Hikma	1253½#	+22	2474	1223½
Howden Joinery	568¾	-½	975½	552½
HSBC Holdings	529½#		567¼	359¾
Imperial Brands	1910½#	-2	1952½	1486
Informa	551½	-1	620	464½
InterContinental Htl	4670#	-229	5338	4193
Intermediate Cap.Grp	1212½	-6	2379	1200
Intertek Group	3897#	-49	5782	3873
Intl Consolidated Airlines	106	-2½	188	103
JD Sports	125¼	-3	234	103
Kingfisher	247¼	-1½	370½	230
Land Securities	612½#	-5¾	813¼	587¼
Legal & General	262#	-1	307¾	233¼
Lloyds Banking Grp	47¾	+¼	55¼	41
London Stock Ex	7786#	-16	8582	6370
M&G	201¼#	+4	227¼	178¼
Melrose	111#	-¾	183½	107½
Mondi	1450½#	-23	1971	1309
National Grid	1036	+1½	1245½	884½
NatWest Group	273#	-1¼	283½	207¾
Next	5808	-40	8426	5726
Ocado	671	+21	1897½	623¼
Pearson	898½#	-5½	923¾	571¾
Pershing Square Hold	2840#	-20	3115	2330
Persimmon	1430	-22	2883	1421
Phoenix Group	609½	-¼	701½	568¼
Premier Oil	480#	-7½	530	298½
Prudential	957½#	+6¾	1509	881
Reckitt Benckiser	6260	-112	6808	5391
RELX	2232	-10	2449	2071
Rentokil Initial	519	-3¼	636¼	444½
Rightmove	593½	-9½	800½	531
Rio Tinto	4785½#	+15½	6225	4375½
Rolls-Royce Group	75¾	-1	147½	71¼
Sage Group	718½	+½	853¾	595½
Sainsbury (J)	202¾	+1	306½	197½
Schroders	2518	-68	3871	2518
Scottish Mortgage	828	-15½	1543½	670½
SEGRO	883½#	+6	1436½	860¼
Severn Trent	2647	+2	3211	2603
Shell	2296½#	-18	2440	1833½
Smith & Nephew	1055	-5	1369	1008
Smiths Group	1504	-16	1629	1355½
Smurfit Kappa	2836	-64	4180	2623
Spirax-Sarco	10070	-310	17135	9130
Sports Direct	786	-15½	949½	562½
SSE	1745#	+9½	1920	1525
St James's Place	1093#	-½	1731½	1044
Standard Chartered	602¼#	-7	638½	410
Taylor Wimpey	107½	-¼	178	103½
Tesco	231½	-½	303½	229¾
Unilever	3944	-25½	4063½	3328
Unite Group	1001#	+1	1207	957½
United Utilities	1031½	+3	1176½	968½
Vodafone Group	108¼	-1	139½	107
Whitbread	2631	-57	3438	2431
WPP Group	767	-2¼	1224	725¾

FTSE 100

MARKET REPORT

SHARES edged down yesterday as the drop in retail sales added to concerns for the economy.

But while trainer chain owner **JD Sports Fashion** was among the big fallers on the FTSE 100 – down 2.26 per cent, or 2.9p, to 125.3p – other sectors were hit too.

Holiday Inn owner **InterContinental Hotels Group** topped the lot, falling nearly 4.7 per cent, 229p, to 4,670p after Citigroup downgraded the stock to "sell" from "neutral".

Others with a sinking feeling included packaging maker **DS Smith** (down 9.1p to 265.5p), and catering giant **Compass Group** (down 50.5p at 1,875p).

Online supermarket **Ocado Group** was the biggest riser on the FTSE 100, up 3.23 per cent, or 21p, to 671p, having suffered a sell off over the previous two days.

On the FTSE 250, shares in **Royal Mail** tumbled eight per cent, 20.2p, to 229.7p as JP Morgan cut the firm's rating to "neutral".

SHARES AT A GLANCE

Aerospace & Defence

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Avon Rubber	836½	-4	2106	739
Babcock International	320½	-1¼	380¼	295
BAE Systems	764¾	-10	838½	528¾
Chemring Group	286½	-2½	367½	256
QinetiQ Group	328	-½	394¼	243
Rolls-Royce Group	75¾	-1	147½	71¼
Senior	126¾	-5¼	172¼	113¼

Alternative Energy

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Porvair	518	-27	772	500

Banks

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Barclays	171¼#	-1	217	140½
Bco Santander	229	-3½	291	193½
Close Brothers	1036	-2	1575	987
CYBG	149¾	-1¾	218	124¼
HSBC Holdings	529½#		567¼	359¾
Investec	384¼	-3	536¾	275½
Lloyds Banking Grp	47¾	+¼	55¼	41
Metro Bank	84	-5	133	70¾
NatWest Group	273#	-1¼	283½	207¾
Standard Chartered	602¼#	-7	638½	410

Beverages

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Barr (AG)	490	-5	588	466
Britvic	759	-11	949½	741
Coca-Cola HBC	1920	-18	2687	1460½
Diageo	3745#	-18½	4103½	3343

Chemicals

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Carclo	18		44½	17½
Croda International	6430#	-138	10410	5908
Elementis	108½	+½	157¼	97
Johnson Matthey	1984	-4	2763	1721
Synthomer	165½	-1½	524½	162½
Treatt	639	+17	1315	507
Victrex	1671	-21	2538	1590

Construction & Materials

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Balfour Beatty	334½	-4¾	346½	215½
Clarke T	138½#	+1½	182	118½
CRH	3082½#	-6½	4002	2756½
Dialight	238½	-2½	380	233
Galliford Try	158½	-1½	206¼	153¾
Gleeson (MJ)	477	-13	820	440
Keller Group	707	+14	1028	664
Kier Group	70¾	-1½	124¾	68
Kingspan Grp	4911¼#	-44	9394¼	4598¾
Marshalls	343¼	+14¾	816	319
Morgan Sindall	1626	-8	2600	1560
Severfield-Rowen	54#	-1	80½	53½
Smart (J) & Co.	160½		161½	128½
Tyman	207	-3½	444½	206

Electricity

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Drax Group	690½#	-11½	831½	475½
SSE	1745#	+9½	1920	1525

Electronic & Electrical Equipment

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Acal	725	-32	1180	597
Halma	2000	-38	3216	1876½
Morgan Crucible	244½	+½	392	241½
Oxford Instruments	2000	-30	2665	1760
Renishaw	3546	+62	5500	3396
Spectris	2761	-17	4083	2458
TT Electronics	143¼	+¼	283	141¾
XP Power	1804#	-128	5540	1722

Equity Investment Instruments

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Aberdeen All Asia	552½	-7½	820	530
Aberdeen Asian Sml	266#	+5	303	245½
Aberforth Smll.Co.	1180	-6	1554	1144
Acorn Income				
Advance Devlpg Fund	566	+2	732	514
Albion Tech.& Gen. VCT	76		78	74½
Albion VCT	49		56	47½
Alliance Trust	961#	-9	1078	887
Artemis Alpha	295#	+½	435	290¼
Aurora Inv.Tst.	195	+3½	250	186
AVI Global Tst	185½	-2½	1110	172
Baillie Gifford Japan	748	+5	1100	662
Baillie Gifford Shin Nip	156¼	+1	267	131¾
Bankers Inv.Tst	101¾	+¼	125	95½
Baronsmead VCT.2	61½		79½	61½
BH Macro GBP	4665	+15	4870	3470
Biotech Growth Trust	985	-17	1252	753
BlackRock Mining	602#	-10	792	502
Blue Planet Intl Tst	11½		28½	11½
BlueCrest AllBlue	230	-9	280½	224
Bluehone AiM VCT2	33		37	33
British Assets Tst	96¾	-2¼	103½	95
Brunner Inv.Tst	956	-16	1130	933
Caledonia Inv	3450	-55	4100	3230
City Natural Res.Yld	200	+4½	232	133¾
City Of London	397	-4	425	377
Dunedin Ent.IT	520		539½	424
Dunedin Income	280	-6	332	263
Edin Wwide Inv	184¾	+¾	335	160¾
Edin.Drgn.Tst	428	-4	534	409
Edin.Inv.Tst	587	-6	657	573
Edin.US Tracker	304	-3	320	267
Elderstreet VCT	54½		58½	47
European Ass Tst	85	-1¼	147½	83½
F&C Cap&Inc	295#	+½	343½	281
F&C Inv Tst	894	+25	946	770
F&C Smaller Cos	137½	-1	175½	134½
F&C US Smaller Companies	1240	-30	1525	1085
Fidelity Asian	485	+10	499	407
Fidelity European	286	+1½	345	267½
Fidelity Japanese	160	-5¼	261	143
Fidelity Special	261	-3	315	250
Finsbury Gwth&In	826	+3	930	734
Foresight Tech.VCT	78½		83	70
Gartmore Euro	135	-2½	168¼	127
Genesis E.M.F	603	+4½	878	587¼
Graphite Ent	1020	-26	1314	954
Hansa Tst 'A'	187	+4½	219	179½
Hansa Tst Plc	186		222	180¾
Henderson Euro.Tst	116½	-4	155½	112
Henderson Far Est	280½	-3½	306½	277½
Henderson High Inc	161#	-3	182½	153½
Henderson Opp Tst	1062½#	-7½	1472½	1012½
Herald Inv.Tst	1668	-10	2575	1560
HGCapital Tst	375		454	312
HSBC Infrastructure	176¼#	-½	183	161
Impax Env.Mkt	425	-4	583	381½
Int.Biotech.Tst	664	-7	760	575
International Public	162½#		173¾	155¾
Invesco Asia	336	+2	372	311
Invesco Perp UK	428	-½	634	418
JPM American	732#	-22	795	655
JPM Asian	365	+2	463½	344
JPM Claverhouse	678	-4	785	639
JPM Elect Man Gwth	965#		1110	907½
JPM Emerg Mkt	104¼	-1½	137¼	99¾
JPM Euro Sml Co	377	-3	582	366½
JPM Global Emerging	122½#	-½	148½	121
JPM Indian	840	-12	858	705
JPM Japanese	450	-5½	726	412½
JPM Mid Cap	863	-2	1502½	830
JPM Overseas IT	417½#	-6	474	386
JPM Smaller Co	260	-6	455	252
JPM US Sml Co	366	-13	472	341
Jupiter Euro	672	-7	891	644
JZ Capital Partners	172		199	90
Keystone Inv.Tst	205	-7½	360	174½
Law Debenture	716	-3	830	709
Lowland Invest Co	120½	+1	144½	110¼
Majedie Inv	174	+1¾	243	168¾
Manchester&Lon	350	-32	624	335
Martin Currie Prtflo Tst	307	-2	433	279
Matrix Inc & Gwth 4	80½#		99½	80½
Maven Income And Growth VCT 42			47	42
Mercantile Inv Tst	180½	-1½	283	173¾
Merchants Tst	536	-8	587	513
Mid Wynd Int	685	-21	860	680
Midas Inc&Gwth Tst	162½#	-½	191½	160¼
Monks Inv.Tst	1031	-4	1450	888
Montanaro Euro Tst	119#	-1	225½	116½
Montanaro Uk	101	-3	180	101
Murray Inc.Tst	798	-6	934	770
Murray Int.Tst	1234		1320	1076
New India	606	+5	660	500
New Star Inv.Tst	123		146	123
North Atl.Smlr.Tst	3450	-180	4990	3450
Northern 2 VCT	58		66½	58
Northern Venture	61¾		70¾	61¾
Oxford Tech 2 VCT	26½		27½	25
Pacific Assets	355	-3	371½	291
Pacific Horizon	620	+3	948	602
Pantheon Int	262		351	240½
Pershing Square Hold	2840#	-20	3115	2330
Polar Cap.Tech	1940	-28	2750	1778
RCM Technology Trust	228	-2½	370	200
RIT Capital Partners	2275	-25	2765	2220
Ruffer Investment	294	-2½	325	283½
Schroder Asia	511	-3	614	498
Schroder Inc	289	-2½	317	280
Schroder Japan	201	+¾	231	187½
Schroder UK	155¼#		247	146½
Schroder UK M&S	516	-9	778	499½
Scottish American	470#	-5	543	442½
Scottish Mortgage	828	-15½	1543½	670½
Shires Inc	252	-3	284½	233
Shires Smlr.Co	248	-1	396½	240
Small Comp Div.Tst	170½		234	159
SPARK VCT	21		23	20¾
Standard Life Equity	308#	-12	380	303
Standard Life UK Sml	445	+1	784	438
SVM UK Emerging	73½		115½	73½
Temple Bar	215½#	-3	254½	203½
Templeton Emrg.	145¾	-1	189¼	140½
The European Inv.Tst	83½	-1¾	164½	78½
Throgmorton Tst	537	+1	1022	531¾
TR Euro.Growth	131½	-4½	188¼	131½
TR Prop. IT	345	+6	504	338½
Troy Inc & Growth Trust	71½	+1¼	82½	67¾
Value & Income	220	-4½	274	212
Witan Inv Trust	220#	-½	257	202
Witan Pacific	264	-8	417	253
Wwide Healthcare	3340	-40	3810	2825

Financial Services

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
3i Group	1134	+2	1503½	1059
3i Infrastructure	334½	+2	366½	304
Abrdn	144¼#	-½	264	141½
Ashmore Group	223¾	+2½	370¼	192
Brewin Dolphin	514	+1	517	266
City Of London Group	51½		76	31
Guinness Peat Group	57½		81½	56½
Hargreaves Lansdown	854½	+4	1598	762½
IG Group	792	+½	857½	648
Intermediate Cap.Grp	1212½	-6	2379	1200
International Pers Fin	86½#	-9	155½	73
IP Group	70½#	+¼	141¾	66¼
Jupiter Fund Man.	108¼	+5¾	265	91½
Liontrust Asset Man	844	-7	2455	821
London Stock Ex.	7786#	-16	8582	6370
Lonfin	33		41½	33
M&G	201¼#	+4	227¼	178¼
Man Group	245½	+½	275	178¾
Paragon Group	499¾	+1¾	617½	427¼
Provident Financial	190¼#	+9¼	381½	166
Rathbone Brothers	1878#	+42	2210	1518
S & U	2160	+10	2940	2010
Schroders	2518	-68	3871	2518
Schroders NV	2165	-45	2625	1732
St James's Place	1093#	-½	1731½	1044
Tullett Prebon	164½	-4	172½	102½
Walker Crips Group	30		33½	28½

Fixed Line Telecommunications

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Airtel Africa	135¾	-3¼	171	93¼
BT Group	139	-2	201	135¼
Telecom Plus	1794	+64	2250	1010

Food & Drug Retailers

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Greggs	1971#	+9	3416	1804
Ocado	671	+21	1897½	623¼
Sainsbury (J)	202¾	+1	306½	197½
Tesco	231½	-½	303½	229¾

Food Producers

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
A.B. Foods	1324½	-8	2131	1313
Anglo-Eastern	820	-10	952	606
Carr's Milling	107½#	-1½	161	105
Cranswick	2882	-58	3820	2864
Devro	177	-2	228½	173½
Glanbia	1053½#	-65	1327½	852¼
Greencore Group	82¼	-4	146½	81¼
Kerry Grp 'A' Shs	8233½	-256¼	11106¼	7812
Premier Foods	103¾	-¾	126¾	98¼
REA Holdings	110	-1	200½	56½
Tate & Lyle	701½	-11	805½	633¼
Unilever	3944	-25½	4063½	3328

Gas, Water & Multiutilities

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Centrica	80¾	-1	91	50¾
National Grid	1036	+1½	1245½	884½
Pennon Group	912½	+4	1245	896
Severn Trent	2647	+2	3211	2603
United Utilities	1031½	+3	1176½	968½

General Industrials

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Bunzl	2737	-14	3163	2397
DS Smith	265½	-9	458¾	260½
Goodwin	2625#	-20	3935	2400
Melrose	111#	-¾	183½	107½
Mondi	1450½#	-23	1971	1309
Smiths Group	1504	-16	1629	1355½
Smurfit Kappa	2836	-64	4180	2623

General Retailers

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
ASOS	632	-17	3345	630
Auto Trader	614¼#	-6½	741¾	499½
B&M Europ Value Ret	337½	-7½	644	336
Caffyns	550		602½	500
Dignity	406	+4¼	777	385
Dixons Carphone	65¼#	+2½	140	59
Dunelm	782½	+21½	1486	670½
Halfords Group	157#	+2½	370	124¾
Howden Joinery	568¾	-½	975½	552½
JD Sports	125¼	-3	234	103
Kingfisher	247¼	-1½	370½	230
Lookers	80	+2½	101	56½
Marks & Spencer	114¼	-1½	256½	113
Next	5808	-40	8426	5726
Pendragon	21½	-½	28¾	17½
Pets At Home	307	-2¼	519	278
RM Group	31	-1	250	26½
Sports Direct	786	-15½	949½	562½
Ted Baker	109½	+½	162¾	69½
Topps Tiles	44		73½	38
WH Smith	1414	-53½	1805½	1311

Health Care Equipment & Services

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Flying Brands	2¼		7¼	2¼
Mediclinic Intnl	492	-3	501½	286½
Smith & Nephew	1055	-5	1369	1008

Household Goods & Home Construction

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Barratt Development	429	+4¾	760	406½
Bellway	1993	-19	3505	1936
Berkeley Grp Hldgs	3595	+3	4903	3447
Bovis Homes	745½	-2½	1261½	725
Colefax Group	790#		880	595
Headlam Group	270	+2	510	260
Mcbride	24	+1	81¼	15½
Persimmon	1430	-22	2883	1421
Reckitt Benckiser	6260	-112	6808	5391
Redrow	506½	+1½	718¾	470½
Taylor Wimpey	107½	-¼	178	103½

Industrial Engineering

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Castings	313	+13	380	288
Hill & Smith	1028	+2	1866	960
IMI	1116#	-14	1838	1071
Northgate	319½#	-2½	440½	312
Rotork	237½#	-1	373½	232¾
Slingsby H.C.	240		240	175
Spirax-Sarco	10070	-310	17135	9130
Vesuvius	342¼#	-4½	536	284½
Vitec Group	1392	+12	1605	1060
Weir Group	1464½	-27	1897	1328½
Xaar	220	+10	273	145

Industrial Metals & Mining

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Bodycote	524½	-1	945	500
Ferrexpo	151½	-3¾	330½	107

Industrial Transportation

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Braemar Shipping Serv	290#	-2	340	201
Clarkson	2655#	-55	4180	2615
Fisher (J) & Sons	305	-1	880	260½
Ocean Wilsons	845	+10	1050	820
Royal Mail	229¾	-20¼	526¾	217¾
Stobart Group	4¾		16	4½
Wincanton	331½	-5	424	304

Leisure Goods

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Games Workshop	7115	+20	11590	6005
Photo-Me Intl	92	+½	118	56¼

Life Insurance

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Aviva	440#	-2½	603	382¼
Chesnara	317½#	+6½	325	256½
Legal & General	262#	-1	307¾	233¼
Phoenix Group	609½	-¼	701½	568¼
Prudential	957½#	+6¾	1509	881

Media

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
4imprint Group	3640#	+35	4045	2240
Bloomsbury Publish.	399	-1	427½	319
Future	1657	-38	3830	1486
Informa	551½	-1	620	464½
ITE Group	65	-3	121¼	46¾
ITV	63½	-½	125¾	61¼
Pearson	898½#	-5½	923¾	571¾
Quarto Group	132½	-2	175½	96½
Reach	77¾#	+¼	396	70¼
RELX	2232	-10	2449	2071
STV Group	284	+4	377½	249
Wilmington Group	274	-6	291	205
WPP Group	767	-2¼	1224	725¾

Mining

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Anglo American	2818½#	+3	4170½	2470½
Anglo Pacific	167½	-4½	189½	121
Antofagasta	1133½#	-18	1781½	991½
BHP Billiton	2237#	-15½	3019	1835¼
Centamin Egypt	87½#	-1	109¾	74½
Endeavour Mining	1661#	+5	2100	1510
Fresnillo	730	-1¼	986¾	622½
Gem Diamonds	36¾		73	33¾
Glencore	489¼#	-12¾	541½	312
Hochschild Mining	59#	+½	173½	57
Kenmare Res.	430	-4	526	403
London & Ass.Prop	18½		25	12
Petra Diamonds	115	+2	134	60½
Polymetal Intl	230	+7	1516½	92
Rio Tinto	4785½#	+15½	6225	4375½

Mobile Telecommunications

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Vodafone Group	108¼	-1	139½	107

Nonequity Investment Instruments

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Oryx Int.Gwth	1120		1940	1091
Rights &Iss.Inc	1982½#		2790	1970

Nonlife Insurance

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Admiral Group	2272#	+10	3524	1729
Beazley Group	625	-2½	635	370¼
Direct Line Insurance	212	-¼	312¼	193¾
Hiscox	936½#	-4¼	990¼	792¾
Homeserve	1188	-1	1191	608½
Lancashire	546		611½	346½

Oil & Gas Producers

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
BP	452#	-4½	463¼	303¾
Cairn Energy	235¾	+2	242¾	171½
Enquest	29½	-¼	36½	17
Gulf Keystone Pet	221	-3½	310	168¼
Premier Oil	480#	-7½	530	298½
Shell	2296½#	-18	2440	1833½
Soco International	21¾		31¼	19
Tullow Oil	47½	-1¼	62¼	39¾

Oil Equipment, Services & Distribution

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Hunting	276	-3	356½	144½
John Wood Group	143	+1¾	251¾	127½
Lamprell	8¾		44¼	5¾
Petrofac	116½	-1	175	93½

Personal Goods

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Burberry Group	1724	-5½	2063	1482
PZ Cussons	192½	-¼	243½	182¾
Supergroup	112¼	-3½	327½	108

Pharmaceuticals & Biotechnology

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
AstraZeneca	10122	-8	11440	8063
Dechra Pharmaceuticals	2950	-138	5365	2940
Genus	2782	+20	5750	2234
GlaxoSmithKline	1321½#	-16¼	2263	1321
Hikma	1253½#	+22	2474	1223½
Oxford Biomedica	418½	-21	1634	387½

Real Estate Investment & Services

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Boot (Henry)	270	-4	345	265
Capital & Regional	57¾#	-3	65	54
Cardiff Property	2550		2550	1875
CLS Holdings	174#	+2½	235½	171¼
Foxtons	37¼#	+¼	52¾	31
Grainger	265	+½	319¾	258¾
Harworth Group	128	-2	191	127
Helical Bar	350½	+7	474	338½
Mountview Est	11650	-200	14750	11600
Panther Secs	290		315	255
Rightmove	593½	-9½	800½	531
Savills	916½#	+½	1450	901
UK Commercial Prop	68¼	+2½	93½	65
Wynnstay Props	675	-5	755	650

Real Estate Investment Trusts

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Big Yellow Group	1215	+27	1709	1168
British Land	410	+1¾	556½	394¼
Capital & Counties	118¾#	+2	179¼	114¾
Derwent London	2438#	+16	3679	2352
F&C Commercial	94½#	+1½	122½	92½
Great Portland Est	515½	+5	779	495¼
Hammerson	22	+1	40	19
Highcroft Inv	1000#	+5	1065	875
Land Securities	612½#	-5¾	813¼	587¼
London & Stamford Prop	208½#	+1¾	285¼	201¾
Primary Health	132¼	+2	162¼	128½
SEGRO	883½#	+6	1436½	860¼
Shaftesbury	406½	+3¾	662	391
Town Centre	165	-2	178½	120
Unite Group	1001#	+1	1207	957½
Workspace Group	507	+3	899½	494

Software & Computer Services

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Aveva Group	3052	+27	4032	1924
Computacenter	2098	-22	2978	2070
Gresham Computing	146½		183	136
Intec Telecom	71¾			
Just Eat Takeaway	1491½	-17½	6346	1148½
Micro Focus	519½	-¾	520¾	256¼
Microgen	396	-14	710	290
Moneysupermarket	185½	-¾	244¼	167
Sage Group	718½	+½	853¾	595½
St.Ives	191¼	-4½	348	169
Triad Group	122½	+5½	165	105

Support Services

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Ashtead Group	4262	-40	6450	3359
Capita Group	28¾	+3¼	52¾	20¼
Costain Group	42	-¼	61	32¾
DCC	4717	-118	6486	4717
De La Rue	91½	-1	189½	73
Diploma	2494	+6	3460	2158
Electrocomponents	1040	-16	1255	812
Essentra	193½	-½	357	189½
Euromoney Inst	1450	+2	1466	829
Experian Group	2661	-26	3667	2285
Ferguson	9790	-124	13305	8680
Hays	119	-1	175½	109
Inchcape	737	-12	928	647
Intertek Group	3897#	-49	5782	3873
London Security	2450		3850	2350
Macfarlane Group	103½#	-5	145	101½
Mears Group	201	+1	224	179½
Michael Page	393½#	-6½	680½	383¼
Mitie Group	73½	-1	79¾	46½
Paypoint	605#	+4	741	522
Rentokil Initial	519	-3¼	636¼	444½
Ricardo Group	416	-4	490	331½
Robert Walters	480#	-20	862	448
RPS Group	210#	+1	213	92
Serco Group	161½#	-2	188¾	121¼
Shanks Group	665	-36	851	534
SIG	34¼	-1¼	52¾	29½
Smiths News	28½		40¼	28
Speedy Hire	41#	+2½	72	38¼
SThree	350	+1	602	317½
Travis Perkins	826½	-5¾	1746	805
Trifast	83¾#	-¼	165	82½

Technology Hardware & Equipment

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
BATM Advanced	27		94½	26½
Spirent	262½#	+½	298¾	215½

Tobacco

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
British Amer.Tob.	3450½	+15½	3628	2512½
Imperial Brands	1910½#	-2	1952½	1486

Travel & Leisure

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
888 Holdings	118	+1	478	115½
Carnival	812	-20	1766½	619½
Celtic	109		140	95
Compass Group	1875	-50½	1969½	1440
Domino's Pizza	244½#	-½	465¼	226½
EasyJet	346	-13	727½	344
Entain	1213#	-20½	2377	1075½
FirstGroup	125	+6½	139½	85¾
Flutter Entert.	10320	-70	15890	7614
Fuller Smith & Turner	508	-10	762	500
Go-Ahead Group	1520	-18	1612	540
Heavitree	290		303	290
InterContinental Htl	4670#	-229	5338	4193
Intl Consolidated Airlines	106	-2½	188	103
Irish Continental Uts	366#	-19¼	402¾	262¼
Marston's	42¼	+¼	84¾	36
Mitchells & Butlers	169¼	+1½	267¾	149
National Express	194½	+8	284¼	166
Rank Group	74¾	-1	179½	73¾
Restaurant Gp	44	+¾	115	40
Saga	160		370½	145½
TUI AG	137	-2	308¾	123¼
Wetherspoon (JD)	515	+6	1095	471¾
Whitbread	2631	-57	3438	2431

AIM

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
600 Group	14	+¼	16¼	11½
Alumasc Group	162		242½	133
Arbuthnot Banking	825#	-7½	1030	810
Boohoo	42	+1	268¾	40
Brown (N.) Group	24		52½	21¾
Camellia	5250#	-175	6925	5250
Churchill China	1300	+100	1940	1070
CML Microsystems	363		440	338
CPP Group	185		480	178½
Cropper (James)	1025	+40	1575	835
Dewhurst	1035		2000	1035
Electra Private Eq.	11½	-¼	597	11
Falkland Islands	235		250	210
Fevertree Drinks	905	-10	2775	837
Filtronic	13		16¾	9
Finsbury Food Group	78½		102	66½
Gresham House	793	-13	1005	765
Hornby	28½		57	25½
IEnergizer	482½	+2	512	258
James Halstead	217	-4	580	196
Johnson Service	88	-3½	162	86
Majestic Wine	100	+8¾	826	83½
Mothercare	10	+½	19¾	6
Mpac Group	304	-1	615	230
Nichols	1060	-30	1540	1040
Norish	13		177½	10
Northamber	49½		69½	49½
Numis Corporation	263½	+4½	369	230
Ovoca Gold	9¾		22½	9
Portmeirion	330	-2½	710	324
Regal Petroleum	23¾	-¾	47¾	15
Renold	24¼		34	20
Rockhopper Exploratn	14¼	-¾	15	4¾
Sportech	20		40	19
Ten Alps	97½		123½	60½
Titon Holdings	85		116	75
UBC Media Group	+¼		1	+¼
Volex	256	-6½	475	225
Young & Co Brewery A	1070	-18	1660	1062

The service is provided for general information only and is not intended to address individual requirements. Appropriate independent advice should be obtained before making investment decisions. Reasonable care will be taken in ensuring the accuracy of the information provided but it may include errors, omissions or inaccuracies.

Ex-dividend * Ex-rights a Ex-All c Ex-capitalisation † Shares suspended

Racing

Bielsa to boss it again

GOLDEN GOAL
Kevin Stott celebrates after Bielsa's success in last year's Virgin Bet Ayr Gold Cup

By **Chris Goulding** (The Scout)

BIELSA (3.40, nap) is weighted to make it a second successive victory in today's Virgin Bet Ayr Gold Cup and give trainer Kevin Ryan a sixth win in the contest.

Without a triumph since taking last year's prize, Bielsa has subsequently managed to avoid a massive hike in the weights as he runs off only a pound higher mark.

Recent eye-catching performances suggest he retains all of his ability.

There was plenty to like about Khanjar's recent victory at Haydock, but favourites have a terrible record – only four have won in 40 years.

In the Ayr opener, **IL BANDITO** (1.20) has been shaping better than his form figures indicate.

After some solid efforts in Group company **ROYAL CHAMPION** (1.55) will appreciate this drop in grade, while **VINTAGE CLARETS** (2.30), a smart juvenile, bounced back to form when successful at Windsor earlier in the month and can follow up despite his 5lb higher mark.

Since stepping up in trip, **BONNY ANGEL** (3.05, nb) has not looked back. She can make it three on the bounce in the Firth Of Clyde Stakes for trainer Clive Cox.

The Lambourn trainer can also score with **TIS MARVELLOUS** (2.15, trb) at Newbury.

The eight-year-old, third in last year's race behind Hurricane Ivor, showed that he is now at the top of his game after a success at Beverley last month.

Cox also has the answer with **HEROISM** (2.50), a ready winner on his only start at Salisbury last month, in the Mill Reef Stakes.

SISKANY (1.40) has the credentials to give Godolphin a third successive victory in the Dubai Duty Free Stakes after Glorious Journey (2020) and Silent Escape (2021).

The boys in blue can also celebrate with **WARREN POINT** (3.25).

NEWBURY RACINGTV

1.10 EBF NOVICE STAKES (STR) (DIV 1) 2YO
£5,400 (Class 4) 7f (15 declared)

1 (11) **AUTOLYCUS** A Perrett 9-7 ... N Callan –
2 (13) **BAUHINIA RHAPSODY** E Walker 9-7 ... T Marquand –
3 (7) **BODORGAN** C Hills 9-7 ... P Hanagan –
4 (12) 43 **BUSSENTO (36)** E J-Houghton 9-7 ... C Bishop ★86
5 (2) **CITY CYCLONE** D & C Kubler 9-7 ... R Clutterbuck(3) –
6 (4) 6 **CLASSIC SPEED (64)** C Cox 9-7 ... A Kirby 82
7 (8) 63 ● **CONQUISTADOR (38)** J & T Gosden 9-7 ... M Harley 78
8 (3) **EL PEQUENO PULPO** J Boyle 9-7 ... A Keeley(5) –
9 (10) **EXOPLANET** R Varian 9-7 ... David Egan –
10 (6) **FEUD** R Beckett 9-7 ... R Hornby –
11 (14) **GASMAN** S Durack 9-7 ... G Bass(3) –
12 (9) 0 **INVERINATE (27)** I Mohammed 9-7 ... L Steward 65
13 (15) **LIEBER POWER** A Balding 9-7 ... D Probert –
14 (5) **UNCLE** R Hannon 9-7 ... P Dobbs –
15 (1) 05 **YOUM ZAMAN (22)** H & R Charlton 9-7 ... T Whelan 72

SP FORECAST: 4 Bussento, 9-2 Exoplanet, 5 Classic Speed, 7 Feud, Lieber Power, 8 Conquistador, 10 Bauhinia Rhapsody, 12 Uncle, 16 Others.

1.40 LEGACY CUP STAKES (GROUP 3) ITV4
£39,697 (1) 1m 3f (9)

1 11-0145 **SOLID STONE (14) (C&D)** 6 9 10 ... R Kingscote 115
(1) Runs: 26 Wins: 8(F,A,GS,G) Places: 9 £283,512
Trainer: Sir M Stoute Owner: Mr Saeed Suhail

2 32-1L60 **MAX VEGA (28) (C)** 5 9 8 ... R Hornby 113
(6) Runs: 16 Wins: 3(S,GS,G) Places: 4 £138,426
Trainer: R Beckett Owner: The Pickford Hill Partnership

3 450413 **DUBAI FUTURE (56) (F)** 6 9 5 ... M Harley ★123
(3) Runs: 23 Wins: 6(F,A,G) Places: 6 £487,019
Trainer: S bin Suroor Owner: Godolphin

4 135530 **FANCY MAN (28)** 4 9 5 ... P Dobbs 118
(2) Runs: 15 Wins: 4(S,A) Places: 3 £126,575
Trainer: R Hannon Owner: Mr Michael Pescod

5 28-5422 **KEMARI (50) (D)** 4 9 5 ... D Probert 120
(7) Runs: 10 Wins: 2(F,G) Places: 3 £199,001
Trainer: C Appleby Owner: Godolphin

6 2142-13 ● **SISKANY (203)** 4 9 5 ... A Kirby 121
(5) Runs: 11 Wins: 5(S,F,A,GS,G) Places: 4 £332,182
Trainer: C Appleby Owner: Godolphin

7 32 **LADY EXCALIBUR (23)** 5 9 2 ... P Hanagan 85
(4) Runs: 2 Places: 1 £3,296
Trainer: A Jones Owner: Burnham P & D Ltd

8 3-133 **LYSANDER (92)** 3 8 13 ... T Marquand 109
(8) Runs: 4 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £37,955
T: W Haggas O: Highclere Thoroughbred Racing - Beehiv

9 41215 **STAY ALERT (77) (C)** 3 8 10 ... David Egan 114
(9) Runs: 5 Wins: 2(A,GS) Places: 1 £52,308
Trainer: H Morrison Owner: Ben & Sir Martyn Arbib

TONGUE STRAP: No. 8 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 3, 5.

SP FORECAST: 11-4 Dubai Future, 3 Siskany, 5 Kemari, Solid Stone, 8 Lysander, 10 Stay Alert, 12 Fancy Man, 20 Max Vega, 100 Lady Excalibur.

GUIDE: KEMARI has finished second behind Rebel's Romance on his last two occasions and, given the aforementioned has since recorded a cosy victory in a Group 1, there could well be more in this four-year-old's locker. A drop in trip may work in his favour having showed no extra at Goodwood (1m4f, gd-fm) last month, and he should not be dismissed. Stablemate **Siskany** hasn't been seen since February but seems a threat if he is ready to roll, while **Dubai Future** is another to note.

2.15 WORLD TROPHY STAKES (GROUP 3) ITV4
£39,697 (1) 5f 34yds (13)

1 320-200 **DILIGENT HARRY (63) (D)** 4 9 3 ... A Kirby 115
(13) Runs: 10 Wins: 3(A) Places: 4 £79,381
Trainer: C Cox Owner: The Dilinquents

2 250490 **EXISTENT (21) (D)** 4 9 3 ... R Kingscote 113
(8) Runs: 19 Wins: 3(S,A) Places: 4 £55,012
Trainer: S C Williams Owner: Mrs J Morley

3 21L101 **LOOK OUT LOUIS (14) (D,T)** 6 9 3 ... B McHugh 112
(3) Runs: 37 Wins: 10(F,A,GS,G) Places: 9 £151,713
Trainer: J Camacho Owner: V Watt,g Howard & J Jenkinson

4 0L-43L0 **METHOD (49) (C)** 4 9 3 ... R Hornby 114
(4) Runs: 11 Wins: 2(F,G) Places: 2 £37,232
Trainer: M Meade Owner: Manton Park Racing

5 521803 **MOUNTAIN PEAK (14) (D)** 7 9 3 ... T Marquand 119
(6) Runs: 43 Wins: 10(F,A,G) Places: 8 £192,694
Trainer: E Walker Owner: Ebury Racing

6 131-601 ● **TIS MARVELLOUS (21) (D,F)** 8 9 3 ... P Hanagan ★121
(9) Runs: 42 Wins: 9(S,F,GS,G) Places: 6 £373,365
Trainer: C Cox Owner: Miss J Deadman & Mr S Barrow

7 752131 **MANACCAN (10) (D,F)** 3 9 2 ... P Dobbs 117
(7) Runs: 11 Wins: 3(F,G) Places: 3 £104,857
Trainer: J Ryan Owner: Newsells Park Stud - Ossie Ardiles Syn

8 0-21120 **MITBAAHY (50) (D)** 3 9 2 ... David Egan 118
(1) Runs: 11 Wins: 3(GS,G) Places: 4 £90,981
Trainer: R Varian Owner: Mr Hasan Mefareh Alajmi & Fawzi Nass

9 133-425 **ADAAY TO REMEMBER (27)** 4 9 0 ... L Steward 114
(12) Runs: 9 Wins: 2(G) Places: 6 £45,444
Trainer: Patrick Owens Owner: GB Horseracing

10 53-8035 **CHIL CHIL (14)** 6 9 0 ... D Probert 113
(10) Runs: 22 Wins: 6(F,A,G) Places: 6 £177,470
Trainer: A Balding Owner: King Power Racing Co Ltd

11 951473 **TERESA MENDOZA (27) (T)** 4 9 0 ... M Harley 114
(5) Runs: 18 Wins: 2(G) Places: 7 £106,241
Trainer: K J Condon (IRE) Owner: Ecurie Ama Zingteam

12 04-1634 **WHITE LAVENDER (6) (D,T)** 4 9 0 ... Doubtful
(2) Runs: 11 Wins: 2(GS,G) Places: 3 £75,859
Trainer: K R Burke Owner: Mrs Barbara M Keller

13 6-97L73 **ATTAGIRL (10) (D,T)** 3 8 13 ... N Callan 105
(11) Runs: 11 Wins: 2(G) Places: 3 £59,403
Trainer: K R Burke Owner: Clipper Logistics

TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 2, 6, 7, 10, 11 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 3, 11.

SP FORECAST: 3 Manaccan, 4 Tis Marvellous, 6 Mitbaahy, 8 Diligent Harry, Chil Chil, 10 Teresa Mendoza, 12 Adaay To Remember, 14 Mountain Peak, 16 Others.

GUIDE: MANACCAN has progressed no end in the second half of the season and his dominant victory at Doncaster (5f, gd) hinted at a colt who is more than ready to tackle Group company. Beaten merely a length in this contest (gd) last year, **Tis Marvellous** can give him most to think about, following back-to-back successes in the Beverley Bullet (5f, gd) last month. A strong pace up front will likely play to the strengths of **Mitbaahy**, who is a major player based on the pick of this year's form.

2.50 MILL REEF STAKES (GROUP 2) 2YO ITV4
£47,778 (1) 6f (7)

1 12 **CHARYN (21) (D)** 9 3 ... T Marquand 100
(7) Runs: 2 Wins: 1(G) Places: 1 £12,336
Trainer: R Varian Owner: Mr Nurlan Bizakov

2 1 ● **HEROISM (29) (D)** 9 3 ... A Kirby 93
(6) Runs: 1 Wins: 1(F) £5,130
Trainer: C Cox Owner: Mr J Goddard

3 51 **MUSTAJAAB (23) (D)** 9 3 ... L Edmunds 89
(4) Runs: 2 Wins: 1(GS) £3,672
Trainer: W Muir & C Grassick Owner: Mr Khalifa Dasmal

4 311655 **ROUSING ENCORE (28) (D,T)** 9 3 ... P Hanagan 102
(1) Runs: 6 Wins: 2(F,G) Places: 1 £28,111
Trainer: R Fahey Owner: Mr Paul K Spencer

5 21 **SAKHEER (16) (D,F)** 9 3 ... David Egan 103
(2) Runs: 2 Wins: 1(F) Places: 1 £7,922
Trainer: R Varian Owner: KHK Racing

6 4111 **SHOULDVEBEENARING (19) (D)** 9 3 ... P Dobbs ★110
(3) Runs: 4 Wins: 3(F,G) £151,738
Trainer: R Hannon Owner: Middleham Park Racing XVIII

7 3 **WALLOP (50)** 9 3 ... R Kingscote 94
(5) Runs: 1 Places: 1 £1,014
Trainer: R Hannon Owner: J Sullivan, W Salthouse

SP FORECAST: 11-10 Sakheer, 9-4 Shouldvebeenaring, 8 Heroism, 10 Charyn, 14 Wallop, 16 Rousing Encore, 33 Mustajaab.

GUIDE: Shouldvebeenaring confirmed himself still on the upgrade when gamely landing a Ripon Listed event last month (6f,gd) but it would be no surprise if Middle Park Stakes entry **SAKHEER** had too much. Having looked in need of the experience first time out at Windsor, Roger Varian's 550,000euros purchase bolted up in fetching fashion at Haydock (6f, gd-fm), looking every inch a Pattern-class performer. **Heroism** recovered from slow start to score in decent fashion at Salisbury (6f, gd-fm) on his debut and also commands respect with that experience to draw on.

3.25 DUBAI DUTY FREE HANDICAP ITV4
£30,924 (2) 1m 2f (13)

1 (6) 712505 **SOTO SIZZLER (28) (D)** D Menuisier 7 9-12 ... C Hutchinson(5) ★111
2 (4) 1121 ● **WARREN POINT (51) (D,F)** C Appleby 3 9-6 ... A Kirby 106
3 (2) 8411-41 **MARCHING ARMY (20) (D)** S bin Suroor 4 9-5 ... L Steward 105
4 (9) 971-229 **STAY WELL (92) (D)** H Morrison 4 9-4 ... R Kingscote 109
5 (3) 214 **OTTOMAN FLEET (92) (D)** C Appleby 3 9-3 ... P Dobbs 106
6 (12) 5-15L00 **PALAVECINO (28) (D)** B Meehan 6 9-3 ... T Greatrex 108
7 (13) 2-14423 **GROUNDBREAKER (21) (D)** A Balding 3 9-2 ... D Probert 106
8 (11) 21210 **SPECIAL ENVOY (28) (D)** J & T Gosden 3 9-1 ... T Marquand 104
9 (5) 1131 **SEA THE CASPER (24) (D)** S & E Crisford 3 9-0 ... H Burns(3) 104
10 (1) 064L44 **PISTOLETTO (36) (D)** J Ryan 5 8-9 ... N Currie 108
11 (8) 117-311 **HAMAKI (42) (D)** W Haggas 3 8-8 ... A Farragher(5) 106
12 (10) 6-46004 **ONEFORTHEGUTTER (28)** I Williams 3 8-8 ... David Egan 108
13 (7) 432122 **MAJESTIC (16)** M Channon 4 8-7 ... R Hornby 110

VISOR: No. 3 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 7, 11 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 10 HOOD: No. 6.

SP FORECAST: 3 Warren Point, 6 Ottoman Fleet, 7 Sea The Casper, Marching Army, 8 Hamaki, 10 Special Envoy, 12 Others.

GUIDE: Warren Point made it three wins from four when swooping late at Goodwood (1m2f, gd-fm) in July but an 8lb rise may leave him vulnerable and **OTTOMAN FLEET** could throw up better value. Having landed a Newmarket Listed prize on just his second start (1m2f, gd-fm), the Godolphin gelding found the step up to Group 2 company too much at Royal Ascot (1m4f, gd-fm) but there's likely to be more to come from him after a break and an opening mark of 100 looks exploitable. Fellow Godolphin runner **Marching Army** improved for a change of headgear when scoring at Yarmouth (1m2f, gd-fm) and is also respected from just a 3lb higher mark.

THE SCOUT

1.10 Conquistador
1.40 Siskany
2.15 TIS MARVELLOUS
2.50 Heroism
3.25 Warren Point
4.00 Palamon
4.35 Noble Masquerade
5.10 Tomfre

4.00 EBF NOVICE STAKES (STR) (DIV 2) 2YO
£5,400 (4) 7f (15)

1 (11) 95 **AFTERLIFE (85)** J & T Gosden 9-7 ... M Harley 76
2 (5) 7 **BEAR FORCE (46)** J Portman 9-7 ... R Hornby 64
3 (6) **BISHOP'S CROWN** E J-Houghton 9-7 ... C Bishop –
4 (13) **CARAGIO** R Teal 9-7 ... A Kirby –
5 (2) **ECTOCROSS** J Boyle 9-7 ... N Callan –
6 (8) **FINEST LEADER** H & R Charlton 9-7 ... T Whelan –
7 (1) **FOX JOURNEY** Sir M Stoute 9-7 ... R Kingscote –
8 (14) **KITARO KICH** G Baker 9-7 ... N Currie –
9 (3) **LANCILLOTTO** C Hills 9-7 ... P Hanagan –
10 (4) **MILVUS** D Coakley 9-7 ... G Bass(3) –
11 (9) 6 **MUKTAMIL (22)** M Tregoning 9-7 ... T Marquand 71
12 (7) 2 ● **PALAMON (36) (F)** R Hannon 9-7 ... P Dobbs ★80
13 (10) **THE PUG** S Kirk 9-7 ... L Edmunds –
14 (12) **BLOOMWITHGRACE** T Dascombe 9-2 ... David Egan –
15 (15) **SILVRETTA** A Balding 9-2 ... D Probert –

CHEEK PIECES: No. 9 HOOD: No. 15.

SP FORECAST: 11-4 Palamon, 9-2 Fox Journey, 6 Silvretta, 7 Muktamil, 8 Afterlife, 14 Bloomwithgrace, Lancillotto, Finest Leader, Bishop's Crown, 16 Others.

4.35 FINEST SURPRISE HANDICAP
£7,776 (4) 1m 4f (17)

1 (6) 464L34 **SIR RUMI (14)** R Hannon 4 10-2 ... P Dobbs 91
2 (8) 22/60LL **DANEHILL KODIAC (42) (D)** J Tickle 9 10-2 ... L Steward ★95
3 (9) 37-2110 **PARTY ISLAND (29) (D)** D Coakley 5 10-0 ... C Bishop 87
4 (1) 24-1L7L ● **NOBLE MASQUERADE (21)** E J-Houghton 5 10-0 ... Doubtful
5 (11) 71165-L **SWORD BEACH (16)** A King 5 9-13 ... Doubtful
6 (7) 411544 **ENFORCED (19)** R Varian 3 9-11 ... David Egan 86
7 (12) 1-26482 **FRONTISPIECE (35) (C&D)** A Perrett 8 9-10 ... R Hornby 89
8 (17) 717-4L6 **DOWNSMAN (99) (D)** J Boyle 4 9-9 ... C Bennett 85
9 (10) L0-61LL **SOVEREIGN DUKE (21)** H Candy 7 9-8 ... A Kirby 86
10 (13) 12L-796 **LA PULGA (21)** H & R Charlton 3 9-4 ... R Kingscote 81
11 (4) 1-85232 **TARTAN CHIEF (19)** P & O Cole 3 9-4 ... N Callan 86
12 (5) 233310 **JACOVEC CAVERN (14) (D)** M Channon 3 9-3 ... G Bass(3) 83
13 (15) 34L291 **MILLE MIGLIA (15) (D)** C Cox 4 9-2 ... P Hanagan 86
14 (14) 6-4433 **AGE OF SAIL (11)** Joseph Parr 3 9-1 ... R Clutterbuck(3) 85
15 (2) 8-31134 **BUG BOY (11) (D)** A Newcombe 6 8-12 ... A Keeley(5) 87
16 (16) 152123 **EKLIL (16)** R Guest 3 8-11 ... C Hutchinson(5) 85
17 (3) 33254L **LOVE MYSTERY (29)** A Balding 3 8-9 ... D Probert 82

BLINKERS: Nos. 2, 4, 5, 10 TONGUE STRAP: No. 11
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 8, 13 HOOD: No. 17.

SP FORECAST: 11-2 Frontispiece, 6 Bug Boy, 7 Mille Miglia, Enforced, 8 Tartan Chief, Age Of Sail, 12 Eklil, Sir Rumi, 14 Others.

5.10 RACINGTV HANDICAP (STR)
£8,100 (3) 7f (20)

1 (11) 20-876L ● **TOMFRE (28) (D)** R Beckett 5 10-2 ... R Hornby 94
2 (15) 81/23 **RAINBOW FIRE (152) (D)** M Botti 4 10-0 ... N Callan 91
3 (2) 121 **DIAMOND RANGER (89) (D,F)** G Boughey 3 9-12 ... P Dobbs 86
4 (1) L36218 **LYNDON B (21) (D)** J Flint 6 9-11 ... M Harley 93
5 (18) 0-41457 **ASCOT ADVENTURE (21) (D)** C Cox 4 9-11 ... A Kirby 95
6 (20) 723L43 **SPANISH STAR (19) (C&D)** P Chamings 7 9-9 ... D Probert 97
7 (5) 7-323L2 **MARSHAL DAN (23) (C&D)** H Main 7 9-9 ... G Mangan(5) ★98
8 (3) 13615- **UNSPOKEN (342) (D)** R Beckett 3 9-6 ... L Steward 82
9 (17) 21-6148 **DREAM SHOW (37) (C&D)** C Hills 3 9-6 ... C Bishop 92
10 (19) 91203L **ALDHAJA (29) (D)** C Hills 3 9-5 ... P Hanagan 96
11 (8) 034886 **TRAIS FLUORS (57) (D)** M Channon 8 9-4 ... G Bass(3) 92
12 (12) 01880-0 **DINOO (23) (D)** R Varian 4 9-4 ... David Egan 91
13 (16) 0-20905 **TOP SECRET (29) (D)** W Muir & C Grassick 5 9-4 ... L Edmunds 91
14 (13) 6802-L6 **HUDDLETON MAC (21) (D)** H Morrison 4 9-3 ... R Kingscote 93
15 (4) 614272 **KING OF JUNGLE (19)** E Walker 3 9-3 ... T Marquand 93
16 (14) 22LLLL **MARKS BEAR (27)** G L Moore 4 9-2 ... R Clutterbuck(3) 79
17 (9) 472615 **THAPA VC (24) (D)** M Rimell 4 9-1 ... C Hutchinson(5) 93
18 (10) 556-212 **MICKS DREAM (50) (D)** R Teal 4 9-0 ... H Burns(3) 94
19 (7) 8L4232 **SECRET STRENGTH (15)** J Boyle 3 9-0 ... A Farragher(5) 94
20 (6) L1L360 **FANGORN (10) (C&D)** M Channon 4 8-9 ... Rose Dawes(7) 90

BLINKERS: Nos. 10, 12 VISOR: No. 15 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 12, 14
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 4, 19 HOOD: No. 14.

SP FORECAST: 6 Diamond Ranger, 10 King Of Jungle, Unspoken, Ascot Adventure, 12 Secret Strength, Marshal Dan, Aldhaja, Dream Show, Tomfre, 14 Others.

GOSSIP FROM THE GALLOPS

North: **PHANTOM FLIGHT** (1.55 Ayr)
Newmarket: **SAKHEER** (2.50 Newbury)
Lambourn: **BONNY ANGEL** (3.05 Ayr)
Scotland: **EL PICADOR** (5.20 Ayr)

AYR RACINGTV

THE SCOUT

1.20 Il Bandito
1.55 Royal Champion
2.30 Vintage Clarets
3.05 BONNY ANGEL (nb)
3.40 BIELSA (nap)
4.15 Animate
4.45 Liamarty Dreams
5.20 Brasca

1.20 VIRGIN BET HANDICAP £15,462 (Class 2) 1m (14 dec) ITV4

1 032398 REVICH (2) (C&D,T) 6 9 13 .... D Tudhope 100
(2) Runs: 40 Wins: 5(GS,G) Places: 13 £115,007
T: R Spencer O: Middleham Park Lxvii & Phil Cunningham

2 700216 WHAT'S THE STORY (2) (C,D) 8 9 13 .. C Rodriguez 97
(12) Runs: 41 Wins: 6(S,F,A,G) Places: 11 £194,397
Trainer: K Dalgleish Owner: Weldspec Glasgow Limited

3 6-19322 REDARNA (42) (C&D) 8 9 12 .... JP Sullivan 99
(5) Runs: 48 Wins: 13(S,F,GS,G) Places: 7 £128,720
Trainer: D Sayer Owner: Graham Lund And Dianne Sayer

4 841257 ON A SESSION (14) 6 9 11 .... G Lee 100
(6) Runs: 33 Wins: 4(G) Places: 9 £157,937
T: D & N Barron O: Penton Hill Racing Limited & Mr L O'ka

5 1-20173 KOY KOY (29) (D,F,T) 3 9 9 .... J Crowley 99
(7) Runs: 8 Wins: 2(F,G) Places: 3 £35,127
Trainer: G Boughey Owner: Mrs A Althani

6 930239 PERSUASION (22) 5 9 9 .... K Stott 100
(11) Runs: 18 Wins: 2(F) Places: 6 £68,323
Trainer: D & N Barron Owner: Mr Laurence O'Kane

7 142130 DUTCH DECOY (14) (D) 5 9 8 ... O Stammers(3) 98
(8) Runs: 43 Wins: 8(F,A,GS) Places: 9 £89,750
Trainer: C & M Johnston Owner: Owners Group 052

8 2210L2 GWEEDORE (31) (C&D) 5 9 6 .... J Hart 101
(13) Runs: 35 Wins: 8(S,GS,G) Places: 9 £66,544
Trainer: K Scott Owner: Lamont Racing

9 113065 ● IL BANDITO (22) 4 9 6 .... P J McDonald★102
(10) Runs: 20 Wins: 4(A,GS,G) Places: 9 £57,734
Trainer: James Horton Owner: John and Jess Dance

10 55-1750 SEASETT (106) (D,T) 4 9 5 .... Rossa Ryan 99
(1) Runs: 13 Wins: 2(S,GS) Places: 1 £26,159
Trainer: C Fellowes Owner: Mr Paul Wildes

11 9-2L6L2 DIRTYOLDTOWN (9) 3 9 3 .... J Mitchell 98
(3) Runs: 8 Wins: 1(S) Places: 2 £25,004
Trainer: G Tuer Owner: Mr Craig Miller

12 17695-L MISTY AYR (15) 3 9 2 .... P Mulrennan 94
(14) Runs: 9 Wins: 1(G) Places: 2 £16,158
T: K Dalgleish O: Middleham Park Racing III & Partner

13 4400L5 ELDRICKJONES (35) (T) 3 9 2 .... C Lee 98
(9) Runs: 16 Wins: 1(F) Places: 3 £49,740
T: R Fell O: Nick Bradley Racing 42,salthouse&Partn

14 180376 BLENHEIM BOY (19) (D,T) 3 9 1 .... Oisin Orr 100
(4) Runs: 9 Wins: 2(S,GS) Places: 1 £18,194
Trainer: R Fahey Owner: P D Smith Holdings Ltd

VISOR: No. 1 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 2, 3, 9 HOOD: No. 5.

SP FORECAST: 7-2 Koy Koy, 6 Dirtyoldtown, 7 What's The Story, 8 Redarna, 10 Persuasion, On A Session, 12 Revich, Gweedore, 14 Others.

GUIDE: Redarna commands respect after seven previous victories at this venue but a slight nod goes to **KOY KOY**, who was beaten less than two lengths when third at Newbury (1m, gd). That form has since been franked by the winner following up at Doncaster last week and, off the same mark of 95, George Boughey's colt will take plenty of beating. **Dirtyoldtown** should appreciate this extra yardage after being touched off at Doncaster (7f, gd-sft), while last year's winner (gd) **Revich** is back for more.

1.55 DOONSIDE CUP STAKES (LISTED) £28,355 (1) 1m 2f (12) ITV4

1 600370 CHICHESTER (2) (C&D) 5 9 5 .... J Crowley 106
(11) Runs: 24 Wins: 3(F,A) Places: 6 £67,216
Trainer: K Dalgleish Owner: Sir Ian & Ms Catriona Good

2 34L373 EUCHEN GLEN (14) (C&D) 9 9 5 .... P Mulrennan 114
(3) Runs: 52 Wins: 12(F,S,GS,G) Places: 9 £499,456
Trainer: J Goldie Owner: Mr W M Johnstone

3 128710 FORZA ORTA (22) 4 9 5 .... T Eaves 100
(1) Runs: 13 Wins: 3(F,GS,G) Places: 5 £53,417
Trainer: K Ryan Owner: Highbank Stud

4 402833 MARIE'S DIAMOND (14) (C,T) 6 9 5 ..... J Hart 113
(9) Runs: 50 Wins: 7(F,S,GS,G) Places: 9 £339,611
Trainer: R Fell Owner: The Wolf Pack & Partner

5 39-L143 ● ROYAL CHAMPION (21) (D,T) 4 9 5 .. J Mitchell 117
(6) Runs: 7 Wins: 2(G) Places: 1 £72,655
Trainer: R Varian Owner: Sheikh Mohammed Obaid Al Maktoum

6 4L26-3L STORMY ANTARCTIC (21) (D,F,T) 9 9 5 .. G Downing 111
(5) Runs: 43 Wins: 8(S,GS,G) Places: 15 £847,168
Trainer: E Walker Owner: Mr P K Siu

7 3-1445L DARK MOON RISING (56) 3 9 0 .... K Stott 107
(10) Runs: 9 Wins: 2(A,G) Places: 2 £86,026
Trainer: K Ryan Owner: Mrs Angie Bailey

8 1 GOOD SHOW (17) 3 9 0 .... Doubtful
(2) Runs: 1 Wins: 1(GS) £3,942
Trainer: K Dalgleish Owner: Weldspec Glasgow Limited

9 L8 HERMAN THE GERMAN (17) 3 9 0 .. Shannon Watts –
(7) Runs: 2
Trainer: J Goldie Owner: Mr James Mearns Long

10 21131 PHANTOM FLIGHT (28) (D,F) 3 9 0 .. P J McDonald ★118
(8) Runs: 5 Wins: 3(F,GS,G) Places: 2 £64,191
Trainer: James Horton Owner: John and Jess Dance

11 LL SQUIRE STREET (17) 3 9 0 .... Amie Waugh –
(12) Runs: 2
Trainer: J Goldie Owner: Mr James Mearns Long

12 13244-L TIMELESS SOUL (238) (T) 4 9 0 .. D Tudhope 103
(4) Runs: 7 Wins: 1(S) Places: 3 £17,582
Trainer: D O'Meara Owner: Akela Thoroughbreds & Partners

VISOR: Nos. 1, 11 TONGUE STRAP: No. 6 CHEEK PIECES: No. 9.

SP FORECAST: 6-4 Phantom Flight, 3 Royal Champion, 6 Euchen Glen, 8 Marie's Diamond, Stormy Antarctic, 10 Dark Moon Rising, 25 Others.

GUIDE: PHANTOM FLIGHT is going forward at a rate of knots and James Horton's colt followed up his good third behind subsequent St Leger runner-up New London at Newmarket (1m2f, gd-fm) with a commanding success at York (1m2f, gd-fm), and this Listed contest doesn't appear likely to halt his progression. **Royal Champion** could build on his third in the Winter Hill Stakes at Windsor (1m2f, gd-sft) when last seen, while **Euchen Glen** is of some interest dropped in trip.

2.30 AYR SILVER CUP HANDICAP £30,924 (2) 6f (25) ITV4

1 961LL9 RATHBONE (22) (D) 6 9 12 ... O McSweeney(5) 96
(7) Runs: 47 Wins: 6(S,F) Places: 12 £127,981
Trainer: K Ryan Owner: Mrs Angie Bailey

2 321443 HYPERFOCUS (6) (D,T) 8 9 12 ...... JP Sullivan 94
(23) Runs: 51 Wins: 7(S,A,GS) Places: 11 £112,908
Trainer: T Easterby Owner: Ryedale Partners No 14

3 7-6LL52 ABOLISH (15) 6 9 11 .... A Mullen 95
(11) Runs: 24 Wins: 1 Places: 11 £51,849
Trainer: I Jardine Owner: Lycett Racing Ltd

4 042L30 DUSKY LORD (6) (D,T) 4 9 11 .... J Mitchell 96
(10) Runs: 12 Wins: 3(F,A) Places: 1 £29,892
Trainer: R Varian Owner: The Dusky Lord Partnership

5 122972 EMPEROR SPIRIT (22) (D,T) 4 9 11 ..... R Ryan★100
(1) Runs: 12 Wins: 2(A) Places: 7 £33,045
Trainer: A Watson Owner: Mr Abdullatif M Al-abdulrazzaq

6 600445 STRIKE RED (2) (D,T) 4 9 11 ..... Mark Winn(7) 97
(15) Runs: 20 Wins: 4(S,A,G) Places: 2 £74,414
Trainer: R Fahey Owner: Mr Peter Timmins

7 061510 JUMP THE GUN (14) (C,D) 5 9 11 ... P Mulrennan 92
(25) Runs: 31 Wins: 4(F,A,G) Places: 8 £33,335
Trainer: I Jardine Owner: Let's Be Lucky Racing 26

JACKPOT: www.totepoolliveinfo.com

8 43L-923 APLOMB (80) (D,T) 6 9 10 .... K Stott 97
(3) Runs: 29 Wins: 4(S,GS) Places: 7 £68,643
Trainer: J Chapple-Hyam Owner: Mrs Fiona Carmichael

9 67L709 ZARGUN (6) (T) 7 9 10 .... D Swift 80
(24) Runs: 49 Wins: 3(GS,G) Places: 11 £87,059
Trainer: S Dixon Owner: Sexy Six Partnership

10 761416 SNASH (35) (C&D,T) 4 9 10 .... D Allan 95
(8) Runs: 16 Wins: 4(A,G) £41,090
Trainer: T Easterby Owner: Mr J Musgrave & Partner

11 277233 EDWARD CORNELIUS (27) 3 9 9 C Rodriguez 95
(20) Runs: 12 Wins: 2(S,G) Places: 4 £47,912
Trainer: K Dalgleish Owner: John Kelly & John McNeill

12 82256L ABERAMA GOLD (23) (C&D) 5 9 9 .. J Watson 98
(22) Runs: 42 Wins: 6(S,F,A,G) Places: 7 £139,521
Trainer: K Dalgleish Owner: Evan M Sutherland & Partner I

13 526425 FULL AUTHORITY (82) (D,T) 5 9 9 .. O Stammers(3) 96
(21) Runs: 17 Wins: 2(S,A) Places: 5 £52,182
T: J Chapple-Hyam O: Mrs H H Morriss & Jane Chapple-hyam

14 304381 LOVELY BREEZE (11) (D,T) 4 9 9(5ex) .. C Lee 93
(2) Runs: 24 Wins: 4(S,F,A) Places: 8 £67,873
Trainer: H Palmer Owner: Dr Ali Ridha

15 050321 MARK'S CHOICE (18) (C,D,T) 6 9 9(5ex) Ryan Sexton(5) 93
(19) Runs: 45 Wins: 9(F,GS,G) Places: 7 £80,270
Trainer: A Keatley Owner: Cragg Wood Racing

16 081515 DEVIL'S ANGEL (27) (D) 6 9 8 .... P J McDonald 95
(9) Runs: 31 Wins: 8(F,A,G) Places: 5 £57,335
Trainer: J O'Keeffe Owner: Titanium Racing Club

17 511469 FORTAMOUR (35) (D) 6 9 8 .... G Lee 99
(17) Runs: 29 Wins: 6(S,A,G) Places: 6 £55,305
Trainer: B Haslam Owner: Chris Cleevely & Racing Knights

18 112326 GOOD EARTH (22) (D,T) 5 9 8 .... T Eaves 94
(4) Runs: 50 Wins: 8(S,F,A,G) Places: 16 £87,559
Trainer: M Herrington Owner: Mrs H Lloyd-herrington

19 196434 BERNARDO O'REILLY (22) (D,T) 8 9 8 .. D Tudhope 94
(5) Runs: 41 Wins: 7(GS,G) Places: 6 £72,988
Trainer: R Spencer Owner: Rebel Racing (2)

20 9-05001 ● VINTAGE CLARETS (16) (C,T) 3 9 8(5ex) Oisin Orr 96
(18) Runs: 13 Wins: 3(F,G) Places: 1 £54,013
Trainer: R Fahey Owner: Mr A Tattersall & Partner

21 243164 ROMAN DRAGON (28) (D,T) 3 9 7 ... J Crowley 93
(16) Runs: 14 Wins: 3(S,F,G) Places: 2 £34,840
Trainer: H Palmer Owner: Nick Hughes & Owen Promotions Ltd

22 119763 AVA GO JOE (59) (D,T) 4 9 4 ..... D Fentiman 95
(14) Runs: 18 Wins: 4(F,G) Places: 6 £49,809
Trainer: T Easterby Owner: Mr B Valentine & Partner

23 40L724 ASADJUMEIRAH (22) (D,T) 4 9 4 .... C Hardie 94
(6) Runs: 24 Wins: 5(A,GS,G) Places: 4 £49,569
Trainer: A Brittain Owner: Made Profiles Ltd & Partner

24 220497 WOVEN (49) 6 9 4 .... C Beasley 97
(13) Runs: 34 Wins: 2(GS,G) Places: 13 £125,459
Trainer: M DodsOwner: Mr John Sagar And Dunham Trading Ltd

25 616842 OSO RAPIDO (4) (D,T) 5 9 3 .... J Hart 97
(12) Runs: 30 Wins: 5(F,A,G) Places: 7 £34,275
Trainer: R FellOwner: Woodhurst Construction & G Chrysanthou

VISOR: Nos. 12, 14, 15 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 6, 13, 22, 23
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 22, 23 HOOD: No. 11.

SP FORECAST: 8 Snash, 10 Dusky Lord, 12 Emperor Spirit, Lovely Breeze, Asadjumeirah, Abolish, 14 Others.

GUIDE: A typically competitive renewal but preference is for **SNASH**, whose trainer has a good recent record in this race. His effort in the Great St Wilfrid at Ripon (6f, gd-fm) can be forgiven because he was slowly away but a reproduction of the form of his penultimate start, when successful over this C&D (gd) would see him go close. **Lovely Breeze** regained the winning thread at Goodwwod (6f, sft), for which she has a 5lb penalty. **Emperor Spirit**, **Abolish**, **Asadjumeirah** and **Vintage Clarets** are just a few more with claims.

3.05 FILLIES' STAKES (GROUP 3) 2YO £22,684 (1) 6f (13) ITV4

1 1L512 ALL THE TIME (16) (D,T) 9 2 .... J Mitchell 104
(10) Runs: 5 Wins: 2(G) Places: 1 £25,573
Trainer: S & E Crisford Owner: The Royal Ascot Racing Club

2 21 BAREFOOT ANGEL (23) (D,T) 9 2 .. P Mulrennan 81
(6) Runs: 2 Wins: 1(G) Places: 1 £7,681
Trainer: R Fahey Owner: Mrs H Steel

3 21452 BELIEVING (14) (D,T) 9 2 .... J Crowley 106
(7) Runs: 5 Wins: 1(A) Places: 2 £24,505
T: G Boughey O: Highclere T'bred Racing - Jane Addams

4 73311 ● BONNY ANGEL (9) (D,F,T) 9 2 .... K Stott 98
(2) Runs: 5 Wins: 2(G) Places: 2 £34,849
Trainer: C Cox Owner: Mr Peter Ridgers

5 151857 CARMELA (36) (T) 9 2 .... R Scott 94
(11) Runs: 6 Wins: 2(F) £15,104
Trainer: D Loughnane Owner: The Many Saints

6 362114 IMMORTAL BEAUTY (16) (D,T) 9 2 .. Doubtful
(12) Runs: 6 Wins: 2(F,A) Places: 1 £39,948
T: R Hannon O: Magnier, Magnier, Shanahan, Maclennan

7 71 LUNARSCAPE (21) (D,T) 9 2 .... J Hart 86
(9) Runs: 2 Wins: 1(GS) £5,400
Trainer: E J-Houghton Owner: Hunscote Stud Limited

8 113865 MARIA BRANWELL (16) (T) 9 2 ..... D Tudhope 103
(5) Runs: 6 Wins: 2(GS,G) Places: 1 £52,218
Trainer: D O'Meara Owner: Bronte Collection 1

9 51 MARINE WAVE (19) (T) 9 2 .... Oisin Orr 88
(13) Runs: 2 Wins: 1(A) £3,672
Trainer: R Fahey Owner: Sheikh Rashid Dalmook Al Maktoum

10 15445 MINNETONKA (14) (D,T) 9 2 .... Rossa Ryan 98
(3) Runs: 5 Wins: 1(F) £13,058
Trainer: R Hannon Owner: Westerberg

11 519 POETIC UNION (16) (D,T) 9 2 .. P J McDonald 91
(4) Runs: 3 Wins: 1(F) £4,320
Trainer: E Walker Owner: Cayton Park Stud Limited

12 12 QUEEN ME (30) (D,F) 9 2 .... T Eaves ★112
(8) Runs: 2 Wins: 1(GS) Places: 1 £61,563
Trainer: K Ryan Owner: Mr Jaber Abdullah

13 34191 SECRET ANGEL (13) (D) 9 2 .... C Lee 92
(1) Runs: 5 Wins: 2(F,G) Places: 1 £22,826
T: K R Burke O: Nick Bradley Racing 40, Burke & Partne

TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 3, 11.

SP FORECAST: 6-4 Queen Me, 11-2 Bonny Angel, 6 All The Time, 8 Maria Branwell, 10 Minnetonka, Believing, 16 Poetic Union, 20 Others.

GUIDE: QUEEN ME was pitched into the Lowther (6f, gd) on the back of her debut triumph at Haydock (6f, gd-sft) and despite going off at 20/1, came within a whisker of Group 2 glory. There is still plenty of time for her to strike at that level, and maybe even above, but, for now, this can provide her with a confidence boost and further her education. **Bonny Angel** bolted up in an competitive nursery at the Leger meeting (6f, gd), while **All The Time** was in front of **Maria Branwell** when pipped in the Dick Poole at Salisbury (6f, gd-fm).

3.40 AYR GOLD CUP HCAP (HERITAGE HCAP) £77,310 (2) 6f (25) ITV4

1 0-20U12 COMMANCHE FALLS (28) (C&D) 5 9 12 .. C Beasley 117
(9) Runs: 23 Wins: 9(S,F,GS,G) Places: 1 £326,564
T: M Dods O: Doug Graham, Ian Davison, Alan Drysdal

2 75/729L SIR DANCEALOT (21) (D,T) 8 9 8 .. P Mulrennan 113
(19) Runs: 43 Wins: 10(F,A,GS,G) Places: 5 £743,835
T: J Butler O: C Benham/ D Whitford/ L Quinn/ K Quinn

3 9L9233 ESCOBAR (3) (T) 8 9 8 .... D Nolan ★118
(7) Runs: 63 Wins: 6(F,S,GS) Places: 15 £490,263
Trainer: D O'Meara Owner: Withernsea Thoroughbred Limited

4 15-6002 VADREAM (21) (D,T) 4 9 8 .... Oisin Orr 106
(21) Runs: 13 Wins: 2(S,A) Places: 4 £118,797
Trainer: C Fellowes Owner: Mr D R J King

5 221430 ZARZYNI (31) (D) 5 9 7 .... B Curtis 111
(11) Runs: 22 Wins: 3(F,GS,G) Places: 8 £109,915
T: D & N Barron O: Mrlaurenceo'kane/harrowgatebloodstockl

6 141053 MR WAGYU (6) (C&D,T) 7 9 7 .... J Hart 114
(15) Runs: 67 Wins: 15(S,F,G) Places: 17 £245,832
Trainer: J J Quinn Owner: The New Century Partnership

7 093510 DOCUMENTING (14) (T) 9 9 5 .... J Mitchell 112
(24) Runs: 41 Wins: 9(F,A,G) Places: 9 £167,882
Trainer: K Frost Owner: Kf Racing, Humphreys, Orr, Glover Prie

8 659415 SUMMERGHAND (21) (D,T) 8 9 5(5ex) ... D Tudhope 114
(12) Runs: 70 Wins: 14(S,F,A,G) Places: 18 £401,809
Trainer: D O'Meara Owner: Mr Hamad Rashed Bin Ghedayer

9 18100L VOLATILE ANALYST (42) (C&D) 5 9 4 .. C Rodriguez 115
(16) Runs: 20 Wins: 6(S,F,A,GS) £118,722
Trainer: K Dalgleish Owner: Richard Gilbert & Keith Dalgleish

10 902204 POPMASTER (14) (D,T) 4 9 3 .... G Downing 112
(23) Runs: 18 Wins: 4(F,A,GS) Places: 6 £101,890
Trainer: E Walker Owner: Laurence Bellman

11 0-54735 ● BIELSA (48) (C&D) 7 9 2 .... K Stott 109
(17) Runs: 23 Wins: 5(F,S,G) Places: 3 £135,300
Trainer: K Ryan Owner: King Power Racing Co Ltd

12 0-3L076 GULLIVER (6) (D,T) 8 9 1 .... Jason Watson 108
(25) Runs: 72 Wins: 8(S,F,A,G) Places: 17 £387,426
Trainer: D O'Meara Owner: Withernsea Thoroughbred Limited

13 803211 BERGERAC (31) (D) 4 9 1(5ex) .... T Eaves 111
(8) Runs: 21 Wins: 4(F,G) Places: 10 £99,094
Trainer: K Ryan Owner: Mrs Angie Bailey

14 471-131 KHANJAR (15) (D,F,T) 3 9 1(5ex) ... J Crowley 112
(5) Runs: 6 Wins: 3(F,G) Places: 1 £39,409
Trainer: W Haggas Owner: Shadwell Estate Company Ltd

15 2L-3909 GIS A SUB (31) (D) 3 9 0 .... S Gray 104
(14) Runs: 9 Wins: 1(G) Places: 2 £52,440
Trainer: K Ryan Owner: Mr Steve Ryan

16 L08241 FIVETHOUSANDTOONE (20) (D,T) 4 8 13(5ex) G Lee 113
(3) Runs: 16 Wins: 2(A,GS) Places: 3 £48,755
Trainer: A Balding Owner: King Power Racing Co Ltd

17 952045 HONEY SWEET (10) (D) 3 8 12 .... C Lee 108
(20) Runs: 15 Wins: 2(S) Places: 2 £73,475
T: K R Burke O: Nick Bradley Racing 14 & Mrs E Burke

18 56-3040 CHIEFOFCHIEFS (56) (D,T) 9 8 12 .. Rossa Ryan 115
(4) Runs: 41 Wins: 6(A,G) Places: 10 £123,525
Trainer: C Fellowes Owner: Mr Mervyn Ayers

19 4445-05 MOTAGALLY (6) (D,T) 6 8 11 .... D Swift 112
(22) Runs: 25 Wins: 5(A,F) Places: 4 £56,232
Trainer: S Dixon Owner: Baker Bond Chappell Dixon

20 611358 TINTO (28) (D) 6 8 11 .... Mark Winn(7) 114
(2) Runs: 63 Wins: 8(S,A,F,G) Places: 14 £131,214
Trainer: M Dods Owner: Mr Foster Watson

21 632621 LUCKY MAN (13) (D,T) 3 8 11(5ex) ... P J McDonald 112
(13) Runs: 17 Wins: 4(A,G) Places: 7 £77,668
Trainer: R Spencer Owner: Rebel Racing Premier Iv

22 962376 ADMIRAL D (9) (D,T) 3 8 10 .... O McSweeney(5) 114
(10) Runs: 11 Wins: 2(S) Places: 2 £63,212
Trainer: R Fahey Owner: Five Go Mad In Malton

23 4-0302L PENDLETON (22) (D) 6 8 9 .... C Hardie 113
(6) Runs: 25 Wins: 3(S,A) Places: 9 £60,571
Trainer: M Dods Owner: Dods Racing Club

24 511117 JUAN LES PINS (6) (D,T) 5 8 9 .... A Mullen 112
(18) Runs: 30 Wins: 6(F,A,G) Places: 7 £62,394
Trainer: M Appleby Owner: Mr Matthew Taylor

25 537613 ALEEZDANCER (13) (D) 3 8 8 .... R Scott 114
(1) Runs: 14 Wins: 4(S,GS) Places: 2 £29,714
Trainer: K Ryan Owner: Jack Berry and John Matthews

BLINKERS: Nos. 13, 19 VISOR: Nos. 6, 8, 17, 18 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 3, 12
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 4, 5, 11, 12, 15, 16, 21, 23 HOOD: No. 9.

SP FORECAST: 4 Khanjar, 10 Summerghand, Commanche Falls, Bielsa, 12 Gulliver, Vadream, Mr Wagyu, 14 Fivethousandtoone, Popmaster, 16 Others.

GUIDE: This historic contest has been won by some classy four-year-olds in recent years and Group 3 winner **VADREAM** appeals as such, having bounced back to form with a narrow defeat in Listed company at Newmarket (6f, gd) last month. Impressive Haydock scorer (6f, gd-fm) **Khanjar** could have Pattern potential, while last year's winner (gd) **Bielsa** is dangerous off just 1lb higher. **Mr Wagyu** is as consistent as they come in these events and must enter calculations along with **Motagally** and dual Stewards' Cup hero **Commanche Falls**.

4.15 REMUS UOMO EBF NURSERY 2YO £7,731 (3) 1m (13)

1 (5) 331 LOYAL TOUCH (29) (D) C & M Johnston 9-9 .... J Hart 89
2 (9) 417 FEEL THE NEED (31) (C) (T) D O'Meara 9-8 .. D Tudhope 85
3 (10) 211 POL ROGER (22) (D) M Dods 9-8 .... C Beasley 88
4 (2) 431 ● ANIMATE (29) (T) S & E Crisford 9-6 .... J Mitchell ★92
5 (8) 160 VINCE LE PRINCE (30) (T) T Easterby 9-2 .... D Allan 86
6 (4) 63421 HAVE SECRET (41) (F) (T) R Fahey 9-1 .... Oisin Orr 88
7 (1) 99312 RIEVAULX RAVER (18) (D) (T) R Fell 8-13 .... B Curtis 87
8 (11) 051 METAL MERCHANT (102) (T) M Channon 8-12 .. Rossa Ryan 89
9 (7) 5334 MONTY MAN (15) K R Burke 8-9 .... C Lee 90
10 (13) 3318L DISPUTED (23) (T) A Keatley 8-9 .... G Lee 89
11 (12) 636 ROLL IT IN GLITTER (39) (T) M & D Easterby 8-8 ... S Gray 87
12 (6) 4455 RORY THE CAT (14) K Dalgleish 8-2 .... A Mullen 91
13 (3) 366 HUMBLE SPARK (54) J Goldie 8-2 .... Amie Waugh(5) 86

TONGUE STRAP: No. 5 CHEEK PIECES: No. 7.

SP FORECAST: 4 Animate, 9-2 Pol Roger, 5 Loyal Touch, 7 Have Secret, 8 Metal Merchant, 10 Feel The Need, 12 Vince Le Prince, 14 Rievaulx Raver, Monty Man, 16 Others.

4.45 HANDICAP £6,696 (4) 7f 50yds (14)

1 (14) 638095 GABRIAL THE DEVIL (28) (T) R Fahey 7 9-12 ... Oisin Orr 84
2 (7) 201341 BRAZEN BOLT (19) (C&D) (T) J J Quinn 5 9-12 ... J Hart 85
3 (11) 7531L0- POET'S LADY (325) D & N Barron 5 9-10 .... G Lee 74
4 (10) 561332 STAR SHIELD (21) (C,D) (T) D O'Meara 7 9-10 .. D Tudhope 85
5 (8) 172163 ● LIAMARTY DREAMS (42) (D) K R Burke 3 9-9 ... B Curtis 84
6 (2) 35512L ABDUCTION (31) (D) J Goldie 4 9-9 .... P Mulrennan 85
7 (12) 52L314 LADY RAEBURN (23) (D) K Ryan 3 9-7 .... S Gray 82
8 (1) 817557 SURPRISE PICTURE (18) K Dalgleish 4 9-6 ... Jason Watson 83
9 (6) 154534 GOMETRA GINTY (24) (D) K Dalgleish 6 9-6 ... C Rodriguez 86
10 (5) 466L06 CASSY O (2) (C&D) (T) T Easterby 5 9-5 .... D Fentiman 84
11 (4) 421LL6 CHOOKIE DUNEDIN (14) (C&D) K Dalgleish 7 9-5 Ryan Sexton(5) 87
12 (3) 446311 JUDGMENT CALL (29) (C&D) Miss L Perratt 4 9-5 ... D Allan ★89
13 (9) 24-543 STAR ZINC (42) (T) C Fellowes 3 9-5 .... Rossa Ryan 82
14 (13) 09307L UGO GREGORY (29) (C&D) (T) T Easterby 6 9-4 JP Sullivan 85

BLINKERS: Nos. 8, 10 TONGUE STRAP: No. 14
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 4, 9, 14 HOOD: No. 13.

SP FORECAST: 9-2 Brazen Bolt, 6 Star Shield, 7 Judgment Call, 8 Star Zinc, Lady Raeburn, 10 Liamarty Dreams, Abduction, 12 Gometra Ginty, 14 Others.

5.20 JORDAN ELECTRICS LTD HANDICAP £8,100 (3) 1m 5f 26yds (15)

1 (3) 01-7590 IT'S GOOD TO LAUGH (77) (T) J Candlish 5 10-2 ... B Curtis 92
2 (1) 21L032- ● BRASCA (389) (T) R Beckett 6 9-13 .... Rossa Ryan –
3 (2) 014324 EL PICADOR (27) K Dalgleish 6 9-13 .... C Rodriguez 89
4 (5) 4-17411 WOR WILLIE (34) M Dods 4 9-12 .... P Mulrennan 91
5 (7) 261656 KIHAVAH (14) (T) A Keatley 5 9-11 .... D Tudhope 90
6 (6) 221122 MOLINARI (14) M Todhunter 5 9-10 .... D Nolan 90
7 (9) 5LD030 MONSIEUR LAMBRAYS (31) (T) R Fahey 6 9-10 .. Oisin Orr 93
8 (8) 2418 AIMERIC (28) (T) R Varian 3 9-9 .... J Mitchell 83
9 (10) 202215 DETECTIVE (29) D Sayer 6 9-9 .... G Lee 91
10 (13) 344232 FAIRMAC (21) (C) C & M Johnston 4 9-6 .... J Hart 91
11 (14) 2L09L6 HEIGHTS OF ABRAHAM (29) K Dalgleish 4 9-5 .. S Gray 91
12 (4) 253L45 GLASSES UP (14) (C) R M Smith 7 9-2 .... D Allan 95
13 (12) LL-09LL KONDO ISAMI (14) R M Smith 4 9-1 .... C Beasley 70
14 (11) 236412 POLYPHONIC (16) K R Burke 3 8-13 .... P J McDonald 90
15 (15) 0L50L8 ANNANDALE (12) (C&D) J Goldie 4 8-11 .. Amie Waugh(5) ★97

BLINKERS: No. 10 VISOR: No. 7 CHEEK PIECES: No. 13.

SP FORECAST: 5 Wor Willie, 11-2 El Picador, 6 Polyphonic, 7 Aimeric, 8 Molinari, Fairmac, Brasca, 12 It's Good To Laugh, 14 Others.

TRACK FACTS: GOING: Good. Left Handed. **TOP TRACK JOCKEY (2017-22):** Paul Mulrennan 16% Strike rate. **TOP TRACK TRAINER (2017-22):** J Goldie 9% Strike rate. **FIRST TIME:** 1.20 Koy Koy (hood), 1.55 Herman The German (cheek pieces), Squire Street (visor), 2.30 Asadjumeirah (cheek pieces, tongue strap), 3.05 Poetic Union (tongue strap), 3.40 Honey Sweet (visor), 4.15 Vince Le Prince (tongue strap). **BEATEN FAVOURITES:** 1.55 Euchen Glen(hcp). 2.30 Roman Dragon(hcp). 3.40 Popmaster(hcp). 4.45 Star Zinc(hcp). 5.20 Kihavah(hcp), Polyphonic(hcp).

Main tribute to honour Queen

By **Chris Goulding**

BERKSHIRE trainer Heather Main, a former opera performer, will sing the national anthem before racing starts at Newbury today.

Main, below, who will be represented by her own runner Marshall Dan at the track in the Racing TV Handicap at 5.10, said: "It was a great honour to be asked and I was very happy to accept.

"Her Majesty had a very special relationship with our sport as a breeder, owner and patron.

"It just feels like there's a huge hole in the racing community without her.

"I had runners in the same race as her on several occasions, especially at Newbury, and it was always very special standing in the parade ring and being so close to her.

"She adored watching the horses and obviously knew so much about them."

There will also be a two-minute silence to honour the passing of the monarch and racegoers wishing to leave a note or flowers can do so.

There will also be a book of condolences for the public to sign.

The Queen was a frequent visitor to the Newbury course, where her horses won 77 races, all bar two of them on the Flat.

NEWMARKET RTV

THE SCOUT

1.31 Therapist
2.06 Al Husn
2.41 Guess
3.16 Celsius
3.51 Insane Bolt
4.26 Flora Finch
5.01 Voltaic

1.31 EBF FILLIES' NOVICE STAKES 2YO £4,320 (Class 4) 1m (13 dec)

1 (12) 61 **CHELSEA GREEN (28)** H Palmer 9 8....**H Davies(3)**
2 (9) L **ARIKARA (45)** P Chapple-Hyam 9 2....**S W Kelly**
3 (7) 74 **BEAUTIFUL STAR (11)** R Hannon 9 2....**D O'Neill**
4 (5) **CLIMATE FRIENDLY** R Varian 9 2....**R Dawson**
5 (13) **DOOM** W Haggas 9 2....**C Fallon**
6 (11) 5 **FORTIS REGINA (22) (F)** J & T Gosden 9 2....**R Havlin**
7 (3) 5 **GENTLE WHINNY (28)** D Coakley 9 2....**T P Queally**
8 (4) 78 **LADY CLEMMIE (22)** J Feilden 9 2....**D E Hogan**
9 (10) 33 **NATIVE MELODY (18)** G Kelleway 9 2....**C Noble**
10 (8) **SCENIC** E Walker 9 2....**P Cosgrave**
11 (6) 2 ● **THERAPIST (42)** A Balding 9 2....**H Turner**
12 (1) **THROUBI** J Fanshawe 9 2....**D Muscutt**
13 (2) **TRUST THE STARS** R Beckett 9 2....**H Crouch**

HOOD: Nos. 6, 8.
W-Factor: Fortis Regina (94); Therapist (82); Chelsea Green (81).
SP FORECAST: 2 Fortis Regina, 11-2 Chelsea Green, 6 Climate Friendly, 8 Doom, 10 Trust The Stars, Therapist, 12 Others.

2.06 TURNERS FILLIES' HANDICAP £8,100 (3) 1m (8)

1 (5) L-36 **NATASHA (52) (D)** J & T Gosden 3 9 10....**R Havlin**
2 (1) 360 **EIDIKOS (30)** E Bethell 3 9 9....**H Crouch**
3 (2) 183 **WASHRAA (70) (D,F)** Owen Burrows 3 9 3 **H Davies(3)**
4 (6) 41-1 ● **AL HUSN (152) (D,F)** R Varian 3 9 2....**D O'Neill**
5 (7) 91-L **QUEENLET (143) (D)** W Haggas 3 8 12....**C Fallon**
6 (8) 1L4 **TAMARAMA (53) (D)** C Hills 3 8 12....**J P Spencer**
7 (4) 146 **AIMING HIGH (71) (D)** M Simcock 3 8 7....**H Turner**
8 (3) 607 **RAINBOW COLOURS (22) (D)** C & M Johnston 3 8 5 **J F Egan**

TONGUE STRAP: No. 5 CHEEK PIECES: No. 2 HOOD: No. 7.
W-Factor: Tamarama (101); Washraa (100); Natasha (99).
SP FORECAST: 9-4 Al Husn, 7-2 Washraa, 5 Queenlet, 6 Natasha, 7 Tamarama, 12 Aiming High, 14 Eidikos, 16 Rainbow Colours.

2.41 TURNERS HANDICAP 3YO £6,696 (4) 7f (12)

1 (8) L-3L **SEATTLE KING (84) (D)** P McEntee 9 11....**T Heard(3)**
2 (4) 131 **BELL SHOT (29) (D,F)** C Hills 9 9....**C Fallon**
3 (2) 5-12 **SENSE OF POWER (24) (D,F)** C Appleby 9 9 **H Davies(3)**
4 (1) 361 **BAILEYSGUTFEELING (39) (D)** K P De Foy 9 7 **D Muscutt**
5 (10) 416 **WAJD (36)** Patrick Owens 9 6....**T Hammer Hansen**
6 (2) 286 **WAR IN HEAVEN (98)** M Appleby 9 5....**A Rawlinson**
7 (3) 213 **THE MOUSE KING (24) (D)** J Feilden 9 4....**D E Hogan**
8 (6) 1LL **SABYINYO (22)** M Channon 9 2....**D O'Neill**
9 (5) 41? ● **GUESS (139) (D)** R Beckett 9 2....**H Crouch**
10 (12) 13-5 **CHOLA EMPIRE (21) (D)** M Simcock 9 2....**H Turner**
11 (11) 111 **MOUNT KOSCIUSZKO (9)** R Hannon 9 1....**J P Spencer**
12 (7) 371 **ASTRAL BEAU (22) (D)** Mrs P Sly 9 1....**S W Kelly**

BLINKERS: No. 11 TONGUE STRAP: No. 5 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 8, 10.
W-Factor: Bell Shot (96); Mount Kosciuszko (93); Wajd (92).
SP FORECAST: 4 Sense Of Power, 9-2 Bell Shot, 5 Mount Kosciuszko, 8 Baileysgutfeeling, Astral Beau, 10 Guess, 12 Others.
TRACK FACTS: GOING: Good. Right Handed. **DRAW:** Inconsistent. **LONGEST TRAVELLER:** Insane Bolt (3.51) Ireland; Sir Plato (5.01) & Fast Steps (5.01) 219 miles.

3.16 TURNERS PARK HOMES HANDICAP £6,696 (4) 6f (12)

1 (1) 424 **PRONTISSIMO (28) (D)** Patrick Owens 4 10 0 **T Hammer Hansen**
2 (6) 110 ● **CELSIUS (53)** Tom Clover 6 10 0....**R Havlin**
3 (9) L12 **MELLYS FLYER (18) (D)** G Scott 4 9 9....**D Muscutt**
4 (12) 416 **EQUIANO SPRINGS (22) (C&D)** T Tate 8 9 8 **T P Queally**
5 (5) 426 **WONDERFUL WORLD (70) (D)** M Channon 3 9 8 **D O'Neill**
6 (8) 346 **TWELFTH KNIGHT (15) (D)** A Watson 3 9 7 **T Fisher(7)**
7 (3) 735 **ABATE (22) (D)** Adrian Nicholls 6 9 7...**H Davies(3)**
8 (11) 910 **AKKERINGA (44) (D)** S C Williams 4 9 5...**R Dawson**
9 (2) 6L5 **SHARK TWO ONE (78) (D)** Jessica Macey 4 9 2 **H Turner**
10 (10) 253 **GOT NO DOLLARS (122) (D)** S C Williams 4 9 0 **L Catton(5)**
11 (7) 33L **HELLO ZABEEL (34)** C Fellowes 4 9 0...**J P Spencer**
12 (4) 5L3 **ALCAZAN (15) (D,F)** R Teal 4 8 8....**C Fallon**

VISOR: No. 1 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 1, 8, 10
CHEEK PIECES: No. 6 HOOD: No. 3.
W-Factor: Shark Two One (94); Hello Zabeel (93); Got No Dollars (92).
SP FORECAST: 5 Mellys Flyer, 6 Celsius, 7 Got No Dollars, Equiano Springs, 8 Akkeringa, Alcazan, 10 Others.

3.51 HANDICAP £25,770 (2) 2m 2f (10)

1 (6) 134 **RAJINSKY (84)** H Palmer 6 9 12....**H Davies(3)**
2 (9) 119 **MASTER MILLINER (31) (F)** E Lavelle 6 9 8...**H Crouch**
3 (8) 001 **THEMAXWECAN (42) (F)** C & M Johnston 6 9 4 **J P Spencer**
4 (10) 61-6 **PRINCE IMPERIAL (21)** R Hughes 5 9 2...**P Cosgrave**
5 (1) 1-74 **BASCULE (22)** R Hughes 4 9 0....**G Rooke**
6 (5) 312 **DIAMOND BAY (12)** T Ward 4 8 12....**D Muscutt**
7 (7) 2L4 **RED FLYER (31) (C)** J Best & K Jewell 4 8 9..**H Turner**
8 (3) 34L **CALL MY BLUFF (54) (D)** F Davis 5 8 9....**R Dawson**
9 (4) 161 **DUKE OF VERONA (27) (F)** W Jarvis 4 8 8...**C Fallon**
10 (2) 0-28 ● **INSANE BOLT (30)** Peter Fahey (IRE) 6 8 6 **J F Egan**

BLINKERS: Nos. 4, 10 TONGUE STRAP: No. 10
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 3, 8.
W-Factor: Insane Bolt (109); Bascule (108); Prince Imperial (107).
SP FORECAST: 9-2 Rajinsky, 5 Duke Of Verona, 6 Insane Bolt, Themaxwecan, 7 Diamond Bay, Master Milliner, 10 Others.

4.26 FILLIES' HANDICAP £8,100 (3) 1m 2f (8)

1 (4) 351 **VALUE THEORY (19) (D,F)** C & M Johnston 3 9 9 **D Muscutt**
2 (1) 3PL **CREMA INGLESA (40) (D)** J Osborne 4 9 7..**S W Kelly**
3 (8) 718 **REEL ROSIE (29) (C,D)** E Bethell 3 9 6.....**H Crouch**
4 (3) 21-6 ● **FLORA FINCH (14)** R Varian 3 9 1.........**R Dawson**
5 (7) 422 **THEBEAUTIFULGAME (44)** Tom Clover 3 9 1 **C Planas(7)**
6 (5) 119 **BELHAVEN (70)** Harry Eustace 3 8 12..........**G Wood**
7 (6) 331 **SEA GALAXY (33) (D,F)** W Haggas 3 8 11...**C Fallon**
8 (2) 51L **SUZY'S SHOES (20)** E J-Houghton 3 8 9 **Georgia Dobie(3)**

CHEEK PIECES: No. 3 HOOD: Nos. 2, 4.
W-Factor: Crema Inglesa (94); Value Theory (93); Thebeautifulgame (92).
SP FORECAST: 5-2 Sea Galaxy, 4 Value Theory, 6 Reel Rosie, Belhaven, 7 Thebeautifulgame, 8 Flora Finch, 10 Others.

5.01 CAMBRIDGESHIRE (HANDICAP) £6,365 (4) 1m 1f (20)

1 (6) 213 **FAST STEPS (19) (D,T)** B Millman 4 11 2..**Mr P Millman**
2 (16) 277 **MARK OF RESPECT (27)** J Portman 4 11 2 **Mr J Harding**
3 (18) 747 **MOSTAWAA (16)** H Main 6 11 1.........**Mr Henry Main**
4 (11) 503 **BALGAIR (51) (C&D)** Tom Clover 8 11 0..**Mr R Birkett**
5 (13) 56-L **ALTERNATIVE FACT (223) (C)** E Dunlop 7 11 0 **Mr F Yarham**
6 (20) 575 **RIVER DERWENT (21)** M Murphy & M Keady 4 11 0 **L Kent**
7 (1) 732 **MAYSONG (9)** Alice Haynes 5 10 13.**Miss Fern O'Brien**
8 (4) 3L1 **TYNWALD (16)** R Hughes 4 10 12....**Mr J Reddington**
9 (7) 076 **LE REVEUR (9) (D)** M Murphy & M Keady 5 10 9 **Mr James Turner**
10 (12) 532 **SIR PLATO (20)(T)** B Millman 8 10 6..**Mrs Jo Buck**
11 (3) 111 **MASQUE OF ANARCHY (19)** Craig Lidster 6 10 5 **Mr E Cagney**
12 (15) 4L4 **BAKERSBOY (36)** P McEntee 4 10 4 **Miss Becky Smith**
13 (9) 075 **THE MENSTONE GEM (88)** Craig Lidster 3 10 4 **Mr M W Brown**
14 (10) 629 **HOTSPUR HARRY (23)** R Eddery 5 10 4...**Mr G Eddery**
15 (8) 043 **NIGHT BEAR (10)** A Carroll 5 10 4..........**Mr J Dixon**
16 (5) 431 **MAFFEO BARBERINI (41)** K Frost 3 10 2 **Dr M Voikhansky**
17 (19) 116 **LUNA MAGIC (20) (D)** A Watson 8 10 2...**Ms B Hampson**
18 (14) 363 ● **VOLTAIC (20) (D)** A Carroll 6 10 1..**Miss S Bowen**
19 (2) 655 **GALACTIC GLOW (105)** L Dace 5 9 7..**Mr Guy Mitchell**
20 (17) 4-L4 **SONNETINA (20) (F)** D Coakley 6 9 4 **Miss Sophie Smith**

BLINKERS: Nos. 9, 19
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 6, 7, 10, 13, 14 HOOD: No. 4.
W-Factor: Galactic Glow (71); Le Reveur (70); Alternative Fact (69).
SP FORECAST: 11-2 Masque Of Anarchy, 6 Fast Steps, 7 Tynwald, 10 Sir Plato, Maysong, 12 Voltaic, Luna Magic, 14 Others.

BEATEN FAVOURITES: 2.06 Washraa(hcp). 2.41 Sense Of Power. 3.16 Celsius(hcp), Wonderful World(hcp). 3.51 Diamond Bay(hcp). 5.01 Fast Steps(hcp). **TOP TRACK JOCKEY (2017-22):** Robert Havlin 10% Strike rate. **TOP TRACK TRAINER (2017-22):** C Appleby 30% Strike rate.

CATTERICK RTV

THE SCOUT

1.48 Solitary Trees
2.23 Pop World
2.58 Gullane One
3.33 Azucena
4.08 Qoya
4.40 Breckland
5.15 Stoney Lane
5.50 Glittering Choice

1.48 NURSERY 2YO £3,996 (Class 5) 7f 6yds (11 dec)

1 (3) 141 **ON THE PULSE (30) (D,T)** P Evans 9 11...**O Lewis(7)**
2 (11) 335 **SPIORADALTA (23)** M Walford 9 8....**D Costello**
3 (7) 860 **AIHAWAWI (21)** D O'Meara 9 6....**B Robinson**
4 (2) 5P6 **ACT OF WILL (14)** D Brooke 9 6....**J Garritty**
5 (8) 4L2 **HUNKPAPA (5) (F,T)** B Meehan 9 6...**H Russell(3)**
6 (9) 567 **GINCIDENT (29)** R Fahey 9 5....**T Hamilton**
7 (6) 32L **TANZANITE (23)** K R Burke 9 2....**H Shaw**
8 (4) 939 **JINKSTER (14)** A Keatley 9 1....**C Murtagh**
9 (10) L75 **VALSTAR (14)** T Easterby 9 1....**S B Kirrane(3)**
10 (5) 504 **UNITARIAN (37)** K R Burke 8 11....**S James**
11 (1) 741 ● **SOLITARY TREES (6) (F,T)** G Boughey 8 4(6ex) **S Osborne(3)**

BLINKERS: No. 5 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 2, 8, 9, 10, 11.
SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 1, 11.
W-Factor: Hunkpapa (77); Solitary Trees (76); Tanzanite (75).
SP FORECAST: 3 On The Pulse, 4 Solitary Trees, 9-2 Hunkpapa, 8 Spioradalta, 10 Aihawawi, 12 Unitarian, Tanzanite, 14 Others.

2.23 RESTRICTED MAIDEN STAKES 2YO £3,780 (5) 5f 212yds (8)

1 (5) 602 **HARDY ANGEL (19)** T Easterby 9 7...**S B Kirrane(3)**
2 (4) 60 **LAST STAND (3)** K R Burke 9 7....**B Garritty**
3 (1) 93L **MAHALIK (24)** K R Burke 9 7....**S James**
4 (6) **THE COMPAS MAN** A Keatley 9 7....**C Murtagh**
5 (3) 243 **WE'RENOTREALLYHERE (19) (F)** J J Quinn 9 7..**H Shaw**
6 (8) **ARTISTIC DREAMER** M Appleby 9 2...**E Parkinson(7)**
7 (2) 732 **OUR FLORENTINE (6) (F,T)** G Boughey 9 2 **S Osborne(3)**
8 (7) 2 ● **POP WORLD (21)** M Dods 9 2....**P Dennis**

BLINKERS: No. 5 TONGUE STRAP: No. 1 CHEEK PIECES: No. 7.
W-Factor: Mahalik (79); We'renotreallyhere (77); Pop World (75).
SP FORECAST: 6-4 Pop World, 7-2 Mahalik, 5 We'renotreallyhere, 6 Hardy Angel, 7 Our Florentine, 20 Artistic Dreamer, 25 Others.

2.58 HANDICAP £3,456 (6) 5f 212yds (12)

1 (3) L88 **LE CHEVAL RAPIDE (17)** D Carroll 4 9 9 **Z Wheatley(5)**
2 (10) 314 **WADE'S MAGIC (6) (C,D)** T Easterby 5 9 9 **Brandon Wilkie(7)**
3 (6) 385 **DAPPER MAN (20) (C,D)** R Fell 8 9 7....**J Peate(5)**
4 (2) 40L **PORTELET BAY (4) (D,T)** P Evans 4 9 7..**O Lewis(7)**
5 (8) 733 **BLAZING SON (11)** B Smart 4 9 7....**H Shaw**
6 (9) 6L4 **TASHGHEEL (18) (D)** G Tuer 4 9 6....**S James**
7 (2) 948 **SYDNEY BAY (43)** Mrs A Duffield 3 9 5..**Joanna Mason**
8 (10) 664 **JACKMEISTER RUDI (11) (D)** K Scott 4 9 3...**B Garritty**
9 (7) 732 **DIRCHILL (21) (C&D)** D Thompson 8 9 4..**H Russell(3)**
10 (4) 9LL **COWBOY SOLDIER (21)** C Teague 7 9 4..**Paula Muir(3)**
11 (5) 773 ● **GULLANE ONE (18) (D)** T Easterby 7 9 4 **S B Kirrane(3)**
12 (1) 457 **FINAL ACCOUNT (19)** R Fahey 3 9 2....**T Hamilton**

BLINKERS: Nos. 1, 4, 6, 9 VISOR: No. 12
TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 4, 10, 11 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 2, 3, 5, 7, 11.
W-Factor: Final Account (73); Cowboy Soldier (72); Blazing Son (71).
SP FORECAST: 9-2 Tashgheel, 6 Portelet Bay, Blazing Son, Wade's Magic, Gullane One, 7 Dirchill, 10 Jackmeister Rudi, 12 Sydney Bay, Final Account, 16 Others.

3.33 NURSERY 2YO £3,996 (5) 5f (11)

1 (6) 627 **STRENGTH 'N HONOUR (23)(T)** C Fellowes 9 9 **S Donohoe**
2 (4) 063 ● **AZUCENA (21)** Mrs A Duffield 9 7..**Joanna Mason**
3 (7) 132 **CASTAN (18) (D)** B Smart 9 5....**H Shaw**
4 (10) 0L6 **TEATIME TIPPLE (10)** T Coyle 9 3....**P Mathers**
5 (1) 394 **GOOSE ROCK (17)(T)** G Scott 9 1....**J Garritty**
6 (3) 614 **DIXIEDOODLEDRAGON (18) (D)** K Dalgleish 9 0 **B Robinson**
7 (2) 462 **KODI DANCER (5) (D,F)** K R Burke 9 0....**S James**
8 (8) 2L2 **HOWYADOIN (18)** T Easterby 9 0...**S B Kirrane(3)**
9 (6) 6L4 **DOCTOR MOZART (18)(T)** P Evans 8 11...**O Lewis(7)**
10 (5) 903 **CHEYENNE NATION (18)** M Dods 8 11....**B Garritty**
11 (9) 911 **LUMACHO (2) (D,T)** G Boughey 8 6(6ex)....**Doubtful**

BLINKERS: No. 5 VISOR: No. 9 TONGUE STRAP: No. 5
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 8 HOOD: No. 4.
W-Factor: Strength 'N Honour (78); Castan (76); Teatime Tipple (75).
SP FORECAST: 5-2 Castan, 100-30 Kodi Dancer, 11-2 Howyadoin, Azucena, 8 Cheyenne Nation, Doctor Mozart, 14 Others.

4.08 HANDICAP £6,156 (4) 1m 5f 192yds (8)

1 (8) U52 **IN THE BREEZE (21)** M Appleby 4 10 3...**F Larson(5)**
2 (5) 048 **MAGNA MORALIA (19)** J J Quinn 5 9 13...**D Costello**
3 (3) 34L **BAILEYS DERBYDAY (23) (D)** C & M Johnston 4 9 10 **A Breslin(3)**
4 (6) 80-2 **MELBURNIAN (12)** R Menzies 7 9 8....**P Mathers**
5 (1) 94-1 **PUNTO BANCO (36)** G Tuer 3 9 6....**S James**
6 (2) 312 ● **QOYA (15)** W Haggas 3 9 3....**S Donohoe**
7 (4) 5L6 **BOLLIN NEIL (17) (C&D)** T Easterby 6 9 3 **Brandon Wilkie(7)**
8 (7) 847 **ZIMMERMAN (29)** T Easterby 3 9 2...**S B Kirrane(3)**

TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 4, 6 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 3, 7, 8.
W-Factor: Melburnian (83); Baileys Derbyday (81); In The Breeze (80).
SP FORECAST: 9-4 Qoya, 11-4 In The Breeze, 5 Melburnian, 7 Punto Banco, 10 Baileys Derbyday, Zimmerman, 12 Others.

4.40 HANDICAP (DIV 1) £3,456 (6) 7f 6yds (12)

1 (9) 121 ● **BRECKLAND (11) (C&D,F)** K Dalgleish 4 9 13 **B Garritty**
2 (8) 1L7 **UNASHAMED (50) (D)** G Tuer 4 9 9...........**S James**
3 (7) 141 **ROUND THE ISLAND (2) (C&D)** Simon Whitaker 9 9 5 **P Dennis**
4 (1) 642 **HOW BIZARRE (24) (D)** Liam Bailey 7 9 3...**J Garritty**
5 (3) 60-9 **WRITTEN BROADCAST (26) (D)** O Pears 5 9 1 **H Russell(3)**
6 (6) 724 **SUMMER SECRETS (19)** R Fahey 3 9 0..**T Hamilton**
7 (2) 547 **ONE MORE DREAM (21)** J J Quinn 3 8 12..**B Robinson**
8 (12) 673 **JOSIEBOND (11) (D)** M Walford 6 8 11.....**D Costello**
9 (5) 867 **TWO SUMMERS (40)** A Keatley 3 8 9.....**C Murtagh**
10 (11) 5L6 **COMBATANTCOMMANDER (22)** T Easterby 3 8 9 **Joanna Mason**
11 (10) 66-L **DARK ECLIPSE (47)** F Watson 6 8 9............**H Shaw**
12 (4) 060 **VAMOS CHICA (114)** I Jardine 3 8 6 **F McManoman(3)**

BLINKERS: No. 4 VISOR: No. 6 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 4, 7, 10, 11
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 3, 5, 8, 11 HOOD: No. 9.
W-Factor: Round The Island (74); Written Broadcast (73); Breckland (72).
SP FORECAST: 7-2 Breckland, 4 Round The Island, 5 How Bizarre, Summer Secrets, 8 Unashamed, 10 Others.

5.15 HANDICAP (DIV 2) £3,456 (6) 7f 6yds (12)

1 (5) 449 **MR STRUTTER (20) (C&D)** D Thompson 8 9 9 **P Mathers**
2 (3) L04 **THE SEDBERGHIAN (33) (D)** M Walford 4 9 8 **J Garritty**
3 (1) 337 **BASTILLE (10)** T Easterby 3 9 4.......**S B Kirrane(3)**
4 (9) 786 **ELLADORA (17)** K Scott 4 9 1....................**B Garritty**
5 (4) 525 **DESERT DREAM (24) (D)** S Spencer 8 9 0..**D Costello**
6 (2) 000 **ARDAT (18)** A Keatley 3 8 13.....................**C Murtagh**
7 (8) 123 ● **STONEY LANE (10) (D)** Simon Whitaker 7 8 10 **Joanna Mason**
8 (12) L3L **BILLY WEDGE (15) (D,F)** N Mechie 7 8 9...**A Breslin(3)**
9 (7) 260 **AUDIT (18)** R Carr 3 8 9.....................................**H Shaw**
10 (6) 097 **TARNHELM (18)** W Storey 7 8 9........**Paula Muir(3)**
11 (10) 545 **MISS SNUGGLES (29)** Mrs A Duffield 3 8 6..**R Ffrench**
12 (11) LL4 **TILSWORTH JADE (27)(T)** J R Jenkins 3 8 6 **F McManoman(3)**

BLINKERS: Nos. 3, 9 TONGUE STRAP: No. 5
CHEEK PIECES: No. 7 HOOD: No. 2.
W-Factor: Desert Dream (74); Mr Strutter (73); Audit (72).
SP FORECAST: 7-2 Stoney Lane, 5 Desert Dream, 13-2 Elladora, 7 The Sedberghian, Mr Strutter, 8 Bastille, 10 Miss Snuggles, 12 Billy Wedge, 14 Others.

5.50 HANDICAP £3,996 (5) 1m 4f 13yds (10)

1 (9) 443 **KING FRANCIS (23)** M Bell 4 10 0................**P Dennis**
2 (8) 473 **WINKLEVI (31) (D,T)** P Evans 7 9 10........**O Lewis(7)**
3 (7) 40L **OCHIL HOUSE (2)(T)** G Boughey 3 9 8..........**Doubtful**
4 (3) 258 **SOCIALLY SHADY (174) (D)** K R Burke 5 9 7.**S James**
5 (10) 531 ● **GLITTERING CHOICE (23)** H Palmer 3 9 7 **D Costello**
6 (2) 62L **ICE HOUSE (57)(T)** W Haggas 3 9 6........**S Donohoe**
7 (1) L3L **EYE KNEE (21) (C&D)** T Easterby 4 9 6..**J Garritty**
8 (5) 331 **LICIT (11) (C&D,F)** T Easterby 5 9 6... **S B Kirrane(3)**
9 (4) 6-50 **TWO BROTHERS (118)** M & D Easterby 4 9 4 **Joanna Mason**
10 (6) 444 **NIETZSCHE (24) (C&D)** B Ellison 9 9 4..**B Robinson**

VISOR: Nos. 4, 9 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 3, 7
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 3, 5, 7.
W-Factor: Two Brothers (77); King Francis (76); Socially Shady (75).
SP FORECAST: 3 Ice House, 9-2 Glittering Choice, 5 Licit, 6 King Francis, 8 Nietzsche, 10 Winklevi, 12 Others.

DETTORI HEADS STATESIDE TO PARTNER NATIONS PRIDE

By Chris Goulding

FRANKIE DETTORI, a notable absentee from a busy Saturday of racing in the UK, is far from putting his feet up as he jets off for two rides at Belmont tonight.

The Italian partners likely winner Nations Pride for Charlie Appleby in the Derby Invitational Stakes.

Since disappointing in the Epsom Derby, Nations Pride won at Saratoga in August.

Dettori, right, also has a shout with Toskana Belle for German trainer Andreas Wohler in the Oaks Invitational Stakes.

AIDAN O'BRIEN and Ryan Moore, on a roll after recently taking the headline races on Irish Champions Weekend, can celebrate more success today at Chantilly with Victoria Road (Prix de Conde).

Hollie Doyle, who celebrated a first Classic win at Chantilly in June when Nashwa landed the French Oaks, is expected to record another success at the track with Eddie's Boy in the Prix Eclipse for Archie Watson.

WOLVERHAMPTON SSR

THE SCOUT

4.50 Nibras Rainbow
5.25 Cobalt Blue
5.55 Rattling
6.30 Elongate
7.00 Kerkyra Island
7.30 Baileys Bling
8.00 She's The Danger
8.30 Atlantic Heart

4.50 CAZOO NURSERY2YO £3,726 (Class 6)1m 1f 104yds (7 dec)

1 (7) 101 ● **NIBRAS RAINBOW (12)** I Mohammed 10 3..**B Sayette(3)**
2 (1) 1L3 **WHOLETTHEDOGSOUT (22)** P Evans 9 8 ......**C Shepherd**
3 (6) 821 **ROMANTIC SUNLIGHT (46)** W Stone 9 3..........**K O'Neill**
4 (3) 5L5 **PINK LILY (22) (F)** R Hannon 9 2..............**S Hitchcott**
5 (4) 671 **CARIAD (14) (C&D,F)** G Scott 9 0.............**S Cherchi(3)**
6 (4) 656 **MIRABELLO BAY (18)** J S Moore 8 13...................**L Keniry**
7 (1) LL0 **THE CREAM RISES (15)** J S Moore 8 8...................**L Morris**

BLINKERS: No. 7 VISOR: Nos. 1, 2.
W-Factor: Cariad (65); Wholetthedogsout (63); Pink Lily (63).
SP FORECAST: 2 Nibras Rainbow, 11-4 Cariad, 3 Romantic Sunlight, 6 Wholetthedogsout, 10 Pink Lily, 33 Mirabello Bay, The Cream Rises.

5.25 EBF NOVICE STAKES 2YO £3,672 (5)1m 142yds (10)

1 (9) 41 **ROSE OF ITHACA (22) (F)** Sir M Prescott 9 7.....**L Morris**
2 (5) 042 ● **COBALT BLUE (19)** R Varian 9 5.....................**R Da Silva**
3 (4) 0 **ENDANGERED (24)** S Kirk 9 5...............................**F Marsh**
4 (7) **FLYING PANTHER** T Ward 9 5.......................**P-L Jamin(3)**
5 (2) 43 **LION KINGDOM (16)** J Fanshawe 9 5...........**B Sayette(3)**
6 (10) 84 **PAVISE (16)** A Balding 9 5.......................................**J Bryan**
7 (3) 8 **BLUE HOUR (16)** R Hannon 9 0.........................**S Hitchcott**
8 (1) **IL CAMPEONE** M Loughnane 9 0...........................**E J Walsh**
9 (8) **MAID IN KENTUCKY** G Boughey 9 0..................**C Shepherd**
10 (6) 89 **NINETYNINEPROBLEMS (24)** M Loughnane 9 0 **C Howarth(5)**

TONGUE STRAP: No. 5 HOOD: No. 4.
W-Factor: Cobalt Blue (88); Lion Kingdom (85); Rose Of Ithaca (78).
SP FORECAST: 9-4 Cobalt Blue, 3 Lion Kingdom, 4 Maid In Kentucky, Rose Of Ithaca, 10 Pavise, 20 Flying Panther, 25 Il Campeone, 33 Others.

5.55 HANDICAP £4,536 (5) 6f 20yds (11)

1 (1) 000 **EMBOUR (10) (D)** R Carr 7 10 0......................**C Howarth(5)**
2 (4) 913 **SARAH'S VERSE (37) (C&D)** R Harris 5 9 12..**B Sayette(3)**
3 (10) L91 **ENDOWED (18) (D)** A Carroll 5 9 11.........................**L Morris**
4 (6) 25L **LET EM HAVE IT (85)** Alice Haynes 3 9 9..**J Bradnam(7)**
5 (2) 12L **TWILIGHT SECRET (28) (C&D)** G Tuer 4 9 8..**P-L Jamin(3)**
6 (3) 648 **NEWYORKSTATEOFMIND (23) (C,D)** W Muir & C Grassick 5 9 7 **S Cherchi(3)**
7 (11) 433 ● **RATTLING (15) (C&D)** R Hannon 3 9 5..**A Voikhansky(7)**
8 (9) 753 **ETERNAL GLORY (15) (C,D)** C & M Johnston 3 9 3..**F Norton**
9 (8) 37L **APACHE STAR (49) (C&D)** M Loughnane 3 9 1...**E J Walsh**
10 (5) 325 **Q TWENTY BOY (36) (C&D)** M Usher 7 9 1....**I Francis(7)**
11 (7) 312 **ELDEYAAR (17) (C&D,F)** A Brittain 3 8 9............**K O'Neill**

BLINKERS: No. 5 TONGUE STRAP: No. 4 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 6.
W-Factor: Eldeyaar (84); Rattling (83); Apache Star (82).
SP FORECAST: 9-2 Rattling, 5 Eldeyaar, 6 Sarah's Verse, Endowed, 13-2 Twilight Secret, 8 Q Twenty Boy, Newyorkstateofmind, 12 Others.

6.30 SELLING STAKES 2YO £3,726 (6)6f 20yds (8)

1 (1) 205 **EXPLICIT (39) (D)** C & M Johnston 10 2..............**F Norton**
2 (2) 1L7 **BOJINK (11) (D,F)** G Boughey 9 5....................**M Crehan(3)**
3 (5) **GEALACH IARIANN** N Hawke 9 4.........................**T Buckley(5)**
4 (7) 255 **MAN MADE OF SMOKE (14)** P Evans 9 4.........**C Shepherd**
5 (4) 528 **CLOUD FLYER (5)** G Boughey 8 13.................**B Sayette(3)**
6 (3) 34 ● **ELONGATE (73)** Alice Haynes 8 13..........**C Howarth(5)**
7 (6) 855 **MAGNIFICENT MILLIE (15)** H Dunlop 8 13.............**L Morris**
8 (8) 67 **WASDALE (19)** J Camacho 8 13........................**S Cherchi(3)**

BLINKERS: Nos. 2, 5 VISOR: No. 4 TONGUE STRAP: No. 5.
W-Factor: Elongate (75); Magnificent Millie (71); Man Made Of Smoke (70).
SP FORECAST: 5-2 Elongate, 11-4 Explicit, 6 Magnificent Millie, Man Made Of Smoke, 8 Bojink, 10 Wasdale, 14 Cloud Flyer, 16 Gealach Iariann.

7.00 HANDICAP (DIV 1) £3,726 (6) 6f 20yds (12)

1 (10) 74L **SHOWDIEMLAD (19)** R Brisland 3 9 9.....................**Doubtful**
2 (6) 857 **TOPLIGHT (23) (C)** A Carroll 4 9 8..........................**K O'Neill**
3 (11) 547 **BILLIAN (47)** P Kirby 4 9 7..**J Haynes**
4 (4) 42L **NACHO (6) (C,F)** D McCain 4 9 6..........**Josephine Gordon**
5 (7) 450 **CREEK HARBOUR (30) (C&D)** A Wintle 7 9 5..**C Howarth(5)**
6 (5) 162 **BABE ALICIOUS (19) (D)** M Appleby 4 9 5............**L Morris**
7 (9) 660 **HOTTER IN TIME (5)** D O'Meara 3 9 3.......................**F Norton**
8 (12) 554 ● **KERKYRA ISLAND (24)** A Balding 3 9 2............**J Bryan**
9 (3) 6L2 **GRIGGY (39) (C&D)** J Butler 6 9 2......**Grace McEntee(3)**
10 (8) 6L5 **SECRET POTION (9) (C,D)** R Harris 8 9 0.. **B Sayette(3)**
11 (1) 884 **BRAVE DISPLAY (2) (D)** P McEntee 8 9 0.....**C Shepherd**
12 (2) L00 **HANNAH'S RETURN (134)** G Brown 3 8 12..**M Phillips(5)**

BLINKERS: Nos. 6, 9, 11 TONGUE STRAP: No. 4
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 4, 10 EYE COVERS: No. 11 HOOD: Nos. 6, 8.
W-Factor: Billian (66); Kerkyra Island (65); Nacho (64).
SP FORECAST: 7-2 Babe Alicious, 4 Griggy, 5 Kerkyra Island, 8 Nacho, 10 Hotter In Time, Toplight, Brave Display, Secret Potion, 12 Others.

7.30 HANDICAP (DIV 2) £3,726 (6) 6f 20yds (11)

1 (4) 711 **ADMIRABLE LAD (39) (C&D,F)** C Banham 4 9 9..**J Haynes**
2 (9) 340 **MY BOY JACK (17)** K P De Foy 3 9 7............. **B Sayette(3)**
3 (6) 259 **MOKAMAN (67)** G Tuer 4 9 7.........................**P-L Jamin(3)**
4 (11) 373 **CLASHANISKA (12) (D)** A Wintle 6 9 6.....................**F Marsh**
5 (7) 753 **AMALFI GEM (23) (D,F)** P G Murphy 3 9 5............**L Keniry**
6 (1) 240 **MAAHI VE (33)** M Attwater 4 9 3.......................**C Shepherd**
7 (2) L46 **SECRET TO SUCCESS (27) (C&D)** P McEntee 4 9 2 **Grace McEntee(3)**
8 (5) 754 **MISS ANACO (73)** S Bowring 3 9 2................... **S Hitchcott**
9 (10) 430 ● **BAILEYS BLING (2)** Miss A Murphy 3 9 1........ **Doubtful**
10 (3) 648 **HARD SOLUTION (5) (C,D)** D O'Meara 6 9 0......**F Norton**
11 (8) 077 **QAARAAT (4) (C&D,F)** A Brittain 7 9 0 .... **K O'Neill**

BLINKERS: Nos. 3, 10 VISOR: Nos. 2, 11 TONGUE STRAP: No. 9
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7.
W-Factor: Maahi Ve (68); Miss Anaco (67); Mokaman (66).
SP FORECAST: 9-4 Admirable Lad, 5 Miss Anaco, 6 Amalfi Gem, 7 My Boy Jack, Mokaman, 8 Clashaniska, 12 Maahi Ve, 16 Others.

8.00 FILLIES' HANDICAP £4,536 (5) 7f 36yds (12)

1 (6) 442 **TROIS VALLEES (15)** J Tate 3 9 13..........................**F Norton**
2 (2) 182 ● **SHE'S THE DANGER (58) (D)** S Bowring 3 9 11 **B Sayette(3)**
3 (11) 241 **ROSE FANDANGO (15) (C&D)** S Dixon 4 9 10...... **K O'Neill**
4 (9) 734 **MISS BRITAIN (2)** Gemma Tutty 3 9 8...**Laura Coughlan(5)**
5 (10) 165 **SENORITA (22) (D)** A Balding 3 9 5...........................**J Bryan**
6 (12) 445 **LUCIA JOY (28) (D)** G Boughey 3 9 4................... **Doubtful**
7 (3) 421 **WILLING TO PLEASE (47) (D,F)** P Kirby 5 9 2.. **J Haynes**
8 (7) 534 **BONDI GIRL (28)** M Appleby 3 9 2................................**T Ladd**
9 (8) 315 **ROGUE STORM (28)** Tom Clover 3 9 1.......................**L Morris**
10 (1) 889 **AVIARY (23)** A Wintle 4 9 0............................. **C Howarth(5)**
11 (5) 410 **TWISTALINE (19) (C)** M Appleby 3 8 13............**C Shepherd**
12 (4) L48 **LOCKDOWN LASS (58)** G Hanmer 4 8 9. **Josephine Gordon**

TONGUE STRAP: No. 3 CHEEK PIECES: No. 2 HOOD: Nos. 9, 10.
W-Factor: Lucia Joy (78); She's The Danger (77); Miss Britain (76).
SP FORECAST: 9-2 Trois Vallees, 5 Rose Fandango, 6 Miss Britain, She's The Danger, 7 Willing To Please, 8 Senorita, 10 Bondi Girl, 12 14 Others.

8.30 HANDICAP 3YO £3,726 (6) 7f 36yds (12)

1 (10) 595 **BURABACK (45) (D,T)** I Jardine 9 9........................**L Keniry**
2 (12) L29 **SILVER KITTEN (11) (D)** C & M Johnston 9 9.......**F Norton**
3 (8) 795 **MUMAYAZ (15) (D)** M Loughnane 9 9.......... **C Howarth(5)**
4 (4) 574 **ICE SHADOW (15)** A Brown 9 8 .... **S Cherchi(3)**
5 (2) 614 **BEAR TO DREAM (18) (D)** M Attwater 9 7......**C Shepherd**
6 (11) 316 **RAMDON ROCKS (17)** I Mohammed 9 6........ **B Sayette(3)**
7 (3) 342 ● **ATLANTIC HEART (22)** D & C Kubler 9 6.........**L Morris**
8 (1) 485 **HEERATHETRACK (24)** M Usher 9 5 **Laura Coughlan(5)**
9 (7) 397 **MUMMA MAC (73)** H Morrison 9 4.................**P-L Jamin(3)**
10 (5) 511 **BRAZEN DIAMOND (32) (C&D)** R Brisland 9 4.. **J Haynes**
11 (6) 85-5 **BANPHRIONSANALUAS (14)** Alice Haynes 9 1.... **K O'Neill**
12 (9) OL-7 **HEEROSE GIRL (40)** M & D Easterby 8 4 **Alexander Voikhansky(7)**

BLINKERS: No. 7 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 3, 7, 9 CHEEK PIECES: No. 8.
W-Factor: Brazen Diamond (78); Buraback (76); Silver Kitten (75).
SP FORECAST: 11-4 Brazen Diamond, 5 Atlantic Heart, 6 Bear To Dream, 7 Mumayaz, Ramdon Rocks, 10 Heerathetrack, 12 Others.

THE SCOUT'S SCOOP SIX HINTS

Leg 1 IL BANDITO (No 9) (1.20 Ayr)
Leg 2 SISKANY (No 6) (1.40 Newbury)
Leg 3 TIS MARVELLOUS (No 6) (2.15 Newbury)
Leg 4 VINTAGE CLARETS (No 20) (2.30 Ayr)
Leg 5 WARREN POINT (No 2) (3.25 Newbury)
Leg 6 BIELSA (No 11) (3.40 Ayr)

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

AYR: Good-good to soft in places

1.25—CAERNARFON (C Beasley, 8-1) 1; Misty Blues (5-1 fav) 2; Transfer Affection (11-1) 3. H'cap 13 ran. nk, 2¾l. (M Channon). Tote: £10.00; pl £3.30, £1.90, £2.70. exacta: £62.30. tricast: £452.22. trifecta: £720.60. CSF: £48.24.

2.00—PRAIRIE FALCON (C Beasley, 5-2 2nd fav) 1; Ramazan (9-4 fav) 2; Reward Smile (6-1) 3. H'cap 10 ran. nk, 1¾l. (M Dods). Tote: £3.50; pl £1.60, £1.20, £2.00. exacta: £9.20. tricast: £29.77. trifecta: £39.20. CSF: £8.25.

2.35—PRINCE OF PILLO (C Rodriguez, 9-2 jt 2nd fav) 1; Bolt Action (7-4 fav) 2; Remarkable Force (18-1) 3. 11 ran. 3½l, ¾l. (K Dalgleish). Tote: £5.50; pl £1.90, £1.20, £4.70. exacta: £16.60. trifecta: £188.60. CSF: £12.26. Non-runner: Rogue Spirit.

3.10—GALE FORCE MAYA (C Beasley, 7-4 fav) 1; Pink Crystal (5-1 2nd fav) 2; Tenaya Canyon (14-1) 3; Mo Celita (15-2) 4. 18 ran. ¾l, nk, ¾l. (M Dods). Tote: £2.75; pl £1.30, £2.40, £4.50. exacta: £13.20. trifecta: £118.90. CSF: £9.10.

3.45—DANZAN (J Hart, 8-1 2nd fav) 1; Fast And Loose (40-1) 2; Mattice (12-1) 3; The Thin Blue Line (20-1) 4. H'cap 24 ran. shd, ¾l, shd. (T Easterby; 5-1 fav Music Society). Tote: £8.90; pl £2.60, £10.80, £4.10, £4.90. exacta: £548.50. tricast: £3395.55. trifecta: £3853.70. CSF: £290.48. Non-runner: Never Dark.Never Dark| Rule 4 applies to All Bets, deduct 5p in the pound

4.20—FLYLIKEANEAGLE (K Stott, 5-1 fav) 1; Ayr Poet (15-2) 2; Zumaaty (25-1) 3. H'cap 14 ran. nk, ½l. (L Russell). Tote: £6.00; pl £2.00, £2.70, £10.20. exacta: £30.40. tricast: £910.97. trifecta: £998.70. CSF: £43.21.

4.50—ENGLES ROCK (P Mulrennan, 10-1) 1; Retirement Beckons (16-1) 2; Menelaus (20-1) 3. H'cap 14 ran. ½l, nk. (L Russell; 10-3 jtfav Albegrey, 10-3 jtfav Monhammer). Tote: £11.50; pl £3.00, £3.80, £7.00. exacta: £156.60. tricast: £3224.93. trifecta: £4956.70. CSF: £156.63.

5.20—VALLEY OF FLOWERS (Joanna Mason, 12-1) 1; Eclipse De Lunar (7-1) 2; Brazilian Beach (80-1) 3. H'cap 14 ran. 3½l, 2¼l. (J Coward; 11-4 fav Shimmering Sands). Tote: £14.10; pl £3.60, £2.30, £15.20. exacta: £134.50. tricast: £6388.25. trifecta: £4045.70. CSF: £90.57. Non-runner: Ain't No Sunshine.

Jackpot: £2,000.00
Placepot: £74.90
(Race 1) 8, 2, 6; (2) 6, 1, 5; (3) 4, 1, 5; (4) 1, 15, 7; (5) 9, 14, 8, 13; (6) 5, 8, 14.
Quadpot: £15.60

KEMPTON: Standard to slow

4.40—MELFET (R Havlin, 15-8 2nd fav) 1; Central Hall (6-4 fav) 2; Alnilam (9-2) 3. 14 ran. 5l, 2½l. (J & T Gosden). Tote: £2.88; pl £1.20, £1.20, £1.60. exacta: £6.70. trifecta: £22.30. CSF: £5.11.

5.10—COURAGE MON AMI (R Havlin, 4-1) 1; Hexameter (11-10 fav) 2; Stonking (25-1) 3. 11 ran. 5l, 9½l. (J & T Gosden). Tote: £6.00; pl £2.00, £1.10, £6.10. exacta: £12.40. trifecta: £127.10. CSF: £8.51.

5.45—CLASSIC ORDER (H Crouch, 7-1) 1; Menalippe (13-2) 2; Drum Brae Boy (6-1 2nd fav) 3. H'cap 13 ran. 4¼l, 4l. (R Beckett; 3-1 fav Goblet Of Fire). Tote: £8.00; pl £2.80, £1.90, £2.30. exacta: £54.70. tricast: £239.91. trifecta: £265.20. CSF: £52.70. Non-runner: Bella Kopella.

6.15—SOLAR ORBITER (J Mitchell, 1-3 fav) 1; Shin Saw Gyi (6-1) 2; Woe Betide (100-1) 3. 12 ran. 5l, nk. (R Varian). Tote: £1.34; pl £1.02, £1.60, £9.90. exacta: £5.30. trifecta: £79.40. CSF: £3.74.

6.45—UNSUNG HERO (C Fallon, 6-1) 1; Granary Queen (11-1) 2; Dion Baker (17-2) 3. H'cap 11 ran. 1l, nk. (H Main; 3-1 jtfav Falesia Beach, 3-1 jtfav Mumayaz). Tote: £7.00; pl £2.10, £3.20, £3.20. exacta: £75.40. tricast: £577.30. trifecta: £859.40. CSF: £71.31.

7.15—SMART CHAMPION (S Osborne, 12-1) 1; Pons Aelius (5-4 fav) 2; Arabescato (17-2) 3. H'cap 9 ran. ½l, 1¾l. (D M Simcock). Tote: £15.00; pl £3.50, £1.30, £2.70. exacta: £42.90. tricast: £146.30. trifecta: £345.80. CSF: £28.41. Non-runner: Mountain Road.

7.45—LOVE DREAMS (H Crouch, 11-1) 1; Taravara (4-1 jt 2nd fav) 2; Cabinet Maker (4-1 jt 2nd fav) 3. H'cap 12 ran. 1l, hd. (M Blake; 3-1 fav Plastic Paddy). Tote: £12.90; pl £3.60, £2.00, £1.90. exacta: £75.60. tricast: £214.99. trifecta: £419.20. CSF: £54.23. Non-runners: Piffle, Vitalline.

8.15—CULTURE (H Crouch, 10-1) 1; Showman (4-1 jt fav) 2; Goldsmith (4-1 jt fav) 3. H'cap 13 ran. nk, 3¼l. (T Ward). Tote: £11.10; pl £3.40, £1.90, £2.10. exacta: £60.70. tricast: £192.37. trifecta: £240.90. CSF: £48.08. Non-runner: Blenheim Belle.

Placepot: £25.20
(Race 1) 6, 4, 2; (2) 4, 10, 6; (3) 7, 1, 14; (4) 1, 12, 9; (5) 9, 3, 5; (6) 2, 8, 6;
Quadpot: £17.80

NEWBURY: Good

1.07—LAJOOJE (R L Moore, 5-6 fav) 1; Tough Enough (22-1) 2; Tafreej (13-2) 3. 14 ran. ¾l, ½l. (Owen Burrows). Tote: £1.84; pl £1.10, £5.80, £2.60. exacta: £25.00. trifecta: £185.40. CSF: £32.16. Non-runners: Kessaar Power, Wadi Bani.

1.43—SKYSAIL (D Costello, 9-2 2nd fav) 1; Dark Trooper (12-1) 2; Acai (10-1) 3. 15 ran. ½l, 1¼l. (M Tregoning; 11-5 fav Paspaley). Tote: £5.90; pl £2.20, £3.00, £3.00. exacta: £72.80. trifecta: £333.80. CSF: £58.03. Non-runner: Fierce.

2.18—CRYSTALLIUM (David Egan, 7-2) 1; Wyoming (10-3 2nd fav) 2; Secret Solace (50-1) 3. 14 ran. 1l, 3¼l. (Tom Clover; 5-2 fav Peony). Tote: £5.00; pl £1.80, £1.60, £11.90. exacta: £20.90. trifecta: £681.50. CSF: £15.02. Non-runner: Silver Lady.

2.53—SURELY NOT (H Doyle, 10-3) 1; Strawberry Belle (4-1) 2; Metahorse (5-2 2nd fav) 3. H'cap 6 ran. ¾l, shd. (D F Davis; 2-1 fav The Parent). Tote: £4.34; pl £1.80, £2.10. exacta: £14.30. trifecta: £44.50. CSF: £16.70.

3.28—STORMBUSTER (D Probert, 6-1) 1; Highbank (8-13 fav) 2; Classic (9-4 2nd fav) 3. 4 ran. 5l, hd. (A Balding). Tote: £7.00; exacta: £9.50. trifecta: £12.40. CSF: £10.60.

4.03—SACRED (T Marquand, 10-11 fav) 1; Saleymm (10-3 2nd fav) 2; Shine So Bright (14-1) 3. 7 ran. 6½l, ¾l. (W Haggas). Tote: £1.91; pl £1.30, £2.20. exacta: £5.40. trifecta: £28.70. CSF: £4.19.

4.35—SAM COOKE (R Hornby, 5-1) 1; Moktasaab (5-1) 2; Wandering Rocks (6-1) 3. H'cap 10 ran. nk, 1l. (R Beckett; 11-4 fav Mahrajaan). Tote: £6.00; pl £1.70, £1.90, £2.30. exacta: £34.70. tricast: £155.36. trifecta: £214.40. CSF: £30.31.

5.05—PERSEUS WAY (J Crowley, 5-1) 1; Ascending (14-1) 2; Further Measure (40-1) 3; Lawn Ranger (40-1) 4. H'cap 19 ran. nk, ½l, shd. (Owen Burrows; 2-1 fav Vee Sight). Tote: £6.20; pl £1.90, £2.80, £10.10, £9.20. exacta: £67.60. tricast: £2627.27. trifecta: £3541.90. CSF: £73.90. Non-runner: Stately Home.

Placepot: £185.50
(Race 1) 8, 12, 11; (2) 10, 4, 1; (3) 1, 15, 9; (4) 4, 3; (5) 4; (6) 5, 2.
Quadpot: £42.60

NEWTON ABBOT: Good to soft-soft in places

1.35—MR YEATS (B Harris, 5-4 fav) 1; Espinator (12-1) 2; Ben Lilly (8-1) 3. H'cap 7 ran. ¾l, 3¾l. (M Harris). Tote: £2.25; pl £1.30, £4.80. exacta: £17.40. trifecta: £92.90. CSF: £15.84.

2.10—BAGHEERA GINGE (S Twiston-Davies, 5-4 2nd fav) 1; Time Flies By (4-5 fav) 2; Lunchable Bob (40-1) 3. 6 ran. 6l, 15l. (N Twiston-Davies). Tote: £2.25; pl £1.20, £1.10. exacta: £2.70. trifecta: £11.40. CSF: £2.58. Non-runners: Come On Paddy Mac, Separate Ways, Tiger Orchid.

2.45—NOAHTHIRTYTWORED (L Edwards, 10-1) 1; Byzantine Empire (13-8 2nd fav) 2; Mascat (evens fav) 3. 4 ran. 4l, 8l. (A West). Tote: £11.00; exacta: £23.30. trifecta: £23.60. CSF: £25.78.

3.20—NIFTY GETAWAY (G Sheehan, 5-4 fav) 1; Lady Jane P (4-1) 2; Kay's Light (66-1) 3. 8 ran. 1¼l, 13l. (A Watson). Tote: £2.25; pl £1.10, £1.30, £8.40. exacta: £6.60. trifecta: £103.40. CSF: £6.82.

3.55—APPRECIATE (M Bastyan, 11-4 fav) 1; Good Impression (11-1) 2; Canal Rocks (10-3 2nd fav) 3. H'cap 9 ran. shd, 2½l. (M Harris). Tote: £3.75; pl £1.30, £3.10, £1.60. exacta: £32.70. tricast: £105.30. trifecta: £131.90. CSF: £32.95. Non-runner: Benandgone.

4.30—MINELLA VOUCHER (Toby Wynne, 2-1 fav) 1; D'jango (16-1) 2; Aye Aye Charlie (12-1) 3. H'cap 7 ran. 2¼l, 3l. (Alexandra Dunn). Tote: £3.00; pl £1.40, £5.70. exacta: £28.10. trifecta: £237.40. CSF: £29.21.

5.00—LETTERSTON LADY (S Bowen, 4-7 fav) 1; Always Busy (9-1) 2; Eire Street (4-1 2nd fav) 3. 5 ran. 11l, 2¾l. (P Bowen). Tote: £1.58; pl £1.10, £3.10. exacta: £5.90. trifecta: £11.00. CSF: £6.30. Non-runner: Charming Berry.

Placepot: £148.70
(Race 1) 2, 5; (2) 2, 7; (3) 4; (4) 6, 3, 2; (5) 4, 8, 9; (6) 6, 3.
Quadpot: £109.50

VITAL STATISTICS

IN-FORM TRAINERS (last 10 days) D F Davis 60% (1 wins and 2 places from 5 runners), C Appleby 53% (5/4/17), A Watson 50% (3/2/10), B Millman 50% (3/2/10), B Smart 50% (2/4/12).

IN-FORM JOCKEYS S Hitchcott 75% (2 wins and 1 places from 4 runners), David Nolan 71% (1/4/7), M Winn 64% (3/6/14), Mollie Phillips 53% (1/7/15), Cieren Fallon 50% (4/6/20).

BENTLEY STEERS RHINOS TO FINAL

DOUBLE UP: Leeds celebrate as Bentley's second try seals their spot at Old Trafford

WIGAN WARRIORS	8
LEEDS RHINOS	20

Irishman scores twice as Bateman red hurts hosts

By **Dave Craven**

TWO-TRY James Bentley kept his cool to send Leeds to Old Trafford – as Wigan's John Bateman completely lost his.

Feisty second row Bentley was dogged by discipline issues when he first joined his hometown club from St Helens this season.

But just like rampant Rhinos – who won just one of their opening nine games – he's come good at just the right time.

Bentley came up with the big plays to stun second-placed Wigan in a frenetic Super League semi-final.

But England second row Bateman, right, will regret a moment of madness that left his side's hopes of reaching next Saturday's Grand Final in tatters. Having just gone 14-4 down, he hit Aidan Sezer late and high with a reckless challenge after the Leeds scrum-half kicked downfield in the 51st minute.

Sezer required lengthy treatment and failed his HIA, which means he cruelly automatically misses out on the final against St Helens or Salford. Bateman, meanwhile, may fear missing the World Cup if disciplinary chiefs come down hard on him. Leeds are the only side to win Super League from fifth spot after doing so in 2011 and 2012. Now they are just 80 minutes from repeating that remarkable feat.

It is already some story – beleaguered head coach Richard Agar sensed things were so bad he quit after only six matches earlier this year. He always said, though, he thought the squad was good enough. He just didn't think he was getting enough out of them.

Rohan Smith certainly has. The Aussie's super-charged Leeds since taking over in May, evidenced again here with a brilliant defensive show against the Challenge Cup holders.

They were 4-2 down at the break but Bentley's rattling tackle forced an error out of Tommy Leuluai to set up position for Jarrod O'Connor to score his first Leeds try.

The young hooker exposed awful goalline defence to scramble over.

In the next set Sezer dinked in a grubber for Bentley to slide in for his first try before Bateman's rash challenge.

Bentley's second try confirmed a famous win. Sam Powell scored late on in his 250th Wigan game but it mattered not.

Warriors were limited to Liam Marshall's 11th-minute try in the first half. But Smith missed the conversion attempt and a far simpler 40m penalty.

Zak Hardaker's 34th-minute penalty halved the deficit and then Bentley took control.

WIGAN – Tries: Marshall, Powell.

LEEDS – Tries: O'Connor, Bentley (2). **Cons:** Hardaker (3). **Pen:** Hardaker.

Sneyd's dreaming of Old Trafford finale

SNEYD: Wants the final say

ST HELENS V SALFORD
3PM, SKY SPORTS

DIEHARD Manchester United fan Marc Sneyd is trying not to imagine what it would be like to walk out at Old Trafford for Salford.

The prolific scrum-half knows that will finally happen if the other Red Devils stun champions St Helens today.

Sneyd, 31, has lost three Super League semi-finals with Hull. But after joining Salford this term, he is hoping to head the short distance to the Theatre of Dreams as a player and not just a fan.

"It's a huge task this weekend," he said. "But in the back of my head it's a dream to play there and has been for as long as I can remember.

"We'll wait and see until after Saturday and then maybe I can start getting a little more excited.

"I genuinely couldn't tell you how many semis I've been in – but I do know I have lost a few."

Sneyd was denied by Wigan in 2016 and, 12 months later, suffered heartbreak again when Leeds edged Hull 18-16 at Headingley.

Two years ago, Wigan emphatically swept past the Black and Whites 29-2 in the semis.

Sneyd added: "We've been playing do-or-die games for a while now so it's second nature."

DAVE CRAVEN

WORLD OF SPORT

Robinson's cup is full of joy for Kent

CRICKET

KENT wicketkeeper Ollie Robinson is relishing today's Royal London One-Day Cup final against Lancashire at Trent Bridge.

Back at the start of August, he hit an unbeaten 206 as they beat Worcester in their opening match of the competition.

ROBINSON

Robinson, 23, told BBC Radio Kent: "As a kid, you dream about playing in finals for your home county – it doesn't get better than that." It should also be an occasion to remember for all-rounder Darren Stevens, 46, who is making his final appearance for Kent after being released by the club following 18 seasons.

Lancashire captain Keaton Jennings said: "The guys have been fantastic. The games we've won, we've probably done so from positions where we've had no right to win them. We've fought hard and scrapped."

THE BIG PICTURE

SOFIA SO GOOD: Rhythmic gymnast Sofia Raffaeli

GOLF

RORY McILROY produced a sprint finish in more ways than one to snatch the halfway lead out of Matt Fitzpatrick's hands at the Italian Open.

McIlroy's group looked unlikely to complete their round after taking three hours on the outward half.

But they covered the back nine in two hours 15 minutes to finish in near-darkness in Rome. McIlroy birdied the 16th and 18th to fire a 66 for a nine-under-par total, one stroke ahead of US Open champion Fitzpatrick, his Ryder Cup team-mate.

"Probably saved myself about three hours in bed tomorrow after getting done," said the leader.

"Fitz has had an unbelievable year. I'm looking forward to going up against him over the weekend."

10 to tackle

1. Who scored for Nottingham Forest against West Ham in their first Premier League match at the City Ground after a 23-year absence?
2. **In which country was featherweight boxer Ramla Ali born?**
3. Which Briton won floor exercise gold at the 2021 and 2022 European Women's Artistic Gymnastics Championships?
4. **From which US city did basketball team the Lakers move to Los Angeles before the 1960-61 season?**
5. Which England fast bowler took 9-57 against South Africa at The Oval in 1994?
6. **Which Czech runner won the women's 400m and 800m at the inaugural World Championships in 1983?**
7. Which country topped the medal table at the 2014 Winter Olympics?
8. **What number is normally worn by a full-back in rugby league?**
9. Which French tennis player won the women's singles at the Australian Open in 1995?
10. **Which British cyclist won the men's individual pursuit at the 1992 Olympics?**

RATINGS
0-3 Oh dear
4-6 Small beer
7-9 So near
10 Sporting Seer

ANSWERS: 1 Taiwo Awoniyi. 2 Somalia. 3 Jessica Gadirova. 4 Minneapolis 5 Devon Malcolm. 6 Jarmila Kratochvilova. 7 Russia. 8 1. 9 Mary Pierce. 10 Chris Boardman.

TIPPING POINT

GIDEON BROOKS helps you beat the bookies this weekend

Saints too good for the Devils

SALFORD will be hoping momentum is a powerful force ahead of their semi-final clash with St Helens at lunchtime.

They certainly carry it into a mouthwatering clash on late-season's form and last week's 28-0 win against Huddersfield.

Fresh legs can be key in this sport, though, and it is hard to see past Saints, who have had four weeks to plan for this since wrapping up top spot and two weeks' rest. Salford will cling to fresh memories having turned over Saints 44-12 at home in July but they have not won at St Helens since 1975 – a run of 40 consecutive defeats.

Saints do not generally pile on the tries but are a tough tackling unit, so a breakthrough then shutdown sort of performance could be on the cards.

Let's have them to win by 1-12 points at 2-1.

Kevin De Bruyne starred the last time Manchester City travelled to Wolves, bagging four in a 5-1 away win at the end of last season.

But today's match could be a bit closer, with Bruno Lage's side displaying stubbornness and steady improvement of late.

Victory looks beyond them but, having conceded just one at home this season, they may be tough to break down.

Take City to win with under 2.5 goals in the match – covering 0-1 and 0-2 – at 11-4.

SHOTS ON TARGET

- **HOT SHOT:** St Helens to win by 1-12 points at 2-1 (1pm, today)
- **LONG SHOT:** Man City to win under 2.5 total goals at 11-4 (12.30pm, today)

GOPPERTH'S BRAINWAVE

Surfing keeps veteran young

LEICESTER V NEWCASTLE 3PM

By Alex Spink

JIMMY GOPPERTH insists surfing will help him ride the rugby wave through to his 40th birthday.

The much-travelled New Zealander makes his home debut at fly-half for champions Leicester today against Newcastle, one of his former clubs.

Only Brad Thorn has played Premiership rugby beyond 40, yet Gopperth thinks nothing of it – claiming his passion for board life has him feeling forever young.

"My body still feels really, really good," said the 39-year-old Kiwi. "Surfing all the time when I was young gave me balance, real core strength and also shoulder stability.

"Obviously, it's a little harder in the Midlands to find some ocean. But all the little muscles I got from paddling all the time have really helped my body and core strength."

Gopperth, who joined from Wasps in the summer, lies fourth on the Premiership's all-time scoring list.

He believes he has much to offer and that experience rather than age is what counts.

"Firstly, I'm a young Tiger – I've only played one game," said the man Newcastle chose to replace Jonny Wilkinson back in 2009. "I honestly feel age is just a number. I drive down to Wales or North Devon to surf. I've also invested in a hot tub at home.

"The cold is not good for my old joints so I'm always in the tub stretching and making sure my body's ready to go for the next day. If I can still put performances in to help the team then I'll keep going until the wheels fall off."

By coincidence, the first person Gopperth walked into on his first day at Leicester was Richard Wigglesworth, the one current player in the Premiership with more miles on the clock.

"Jimmy turned up and I said, 'Oh, you're a couple of weeks younger than me, aren't you?'" recalled Wigglesworth, Tigers' player-coach.

"He said, 'Yeah, 20 days'. I replied, 'Ah, so you've looked it up then.' Honestly, he's so happy not to be the oldest."

Leicester, who lost their opening game at Exeter last week, recall England quartet Ollie Chessum, Joe Heyes, Jack van Poortvliet and Guy Porter into their 23 and will look to Gopperth for direction. He said: "I still really want to win things. I wake up every morning wanting to train and play. I've still got the desire."

KEEP UP: Jimmy Gopperth, with Dan Cole, on his debut

Warriors are not grounded yet

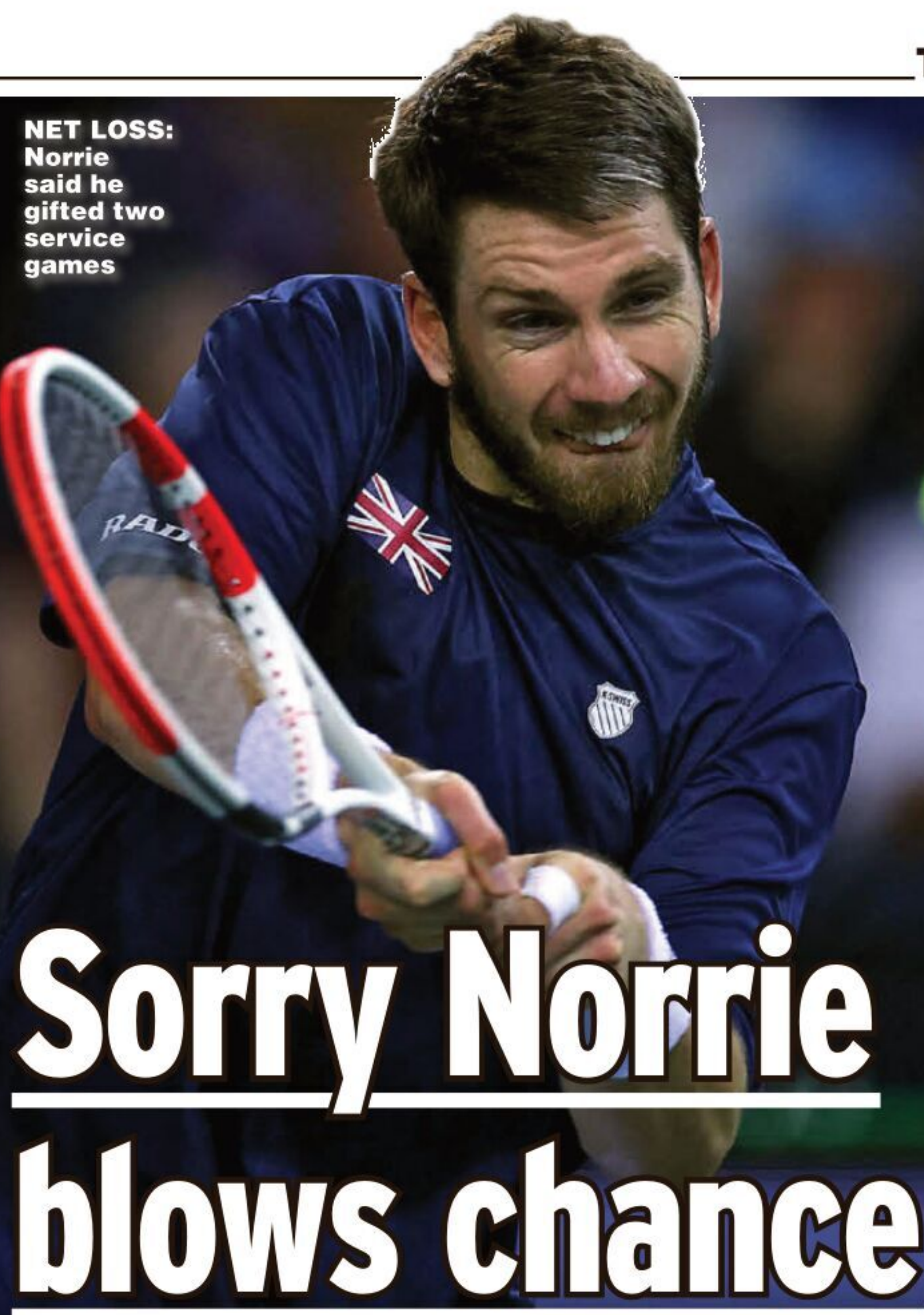
STEVE DIAMOND'S Worcester live to fight another day after unpaid staff agreed to put on tomorrow's Premiership match with Exeter.

Warriors' staff gave the Sixways clash the green light but could not hide their fury at the club hierarchy, issuing a statement which last night led to the owners threatening them with the sack.

"We remain angry at the broken promises and lack of communication from those above," read the statement. They had been told on Tuesday that agreement had been reached for the sale of the club and unpaid wages and bills would be met.

Nothing has come of that but staff have decided to get this game on with the warning that "we cannot promise this goodwill will continue indefinitely".

Their agreement enabled the local authority to issue a general safety certificate and the RFU to approve not only tomorrow's game but today's Allianz Cup clash with Harlequins women.

NET LOSS: Norrie said he gifted two service games

Sorry Norrie blows chance

I HAD A BAD DAY SAYS CAM

By **David McCarthy**

CAMERON NORRIE was kicking himself after throwing away the opportunity to seal Britain's Davis Cup tie against the Netherlands.

Dan Evans won the day's opening match, defeating Tallon Griekspoor 6-4 6-4, giving Norrie the chance to hand the hosts an unassailable 2-0 lead last night.

However, to the dismay of the bulk of the 5,000-strong crowd in Glasgow Norrie was well beaten 6-4 6-2 by Botic van de Zandschulp, meaning the tie would be decided by the doubles rubber.

On Wednesday, Norrie had scrambled his way to victory against Taylor Fritz of the United States but this time he could not recover from a bad start against a player he beat easily in Montreal last month.

Norrie is ranked No.8 in the world, 27 places above Van de Zandschulp, and was at a loss to explain his performance.

He said: "Botic was better than me. I gifted him two service games. He didn't really have to do much to break me in the end. That's not a player that's of my ranking, and that's me on a really bad day. That's not the level I'm capable of. I'm disappointed with that."

For Evans, there was the satisfaction of bouncing back from his defeat on Wednesday.

The British No.2 beat world No.48 Griekspoor to make up for losing to the USA's Tommy Paul but insisted he had played well enough to go into yesterday's clash with his confidence intact.

Evans, above, said: "It wasn't such an issue for me because I thought I played a good match the other day. It wasn't like I lost in straight sets, didn't put many games on the board and played poorly. It was pretty simple. I needed to put a continuation of Wednesday on the court again and I would be OK."

The Emirates Arena crowd arrived hoping to see Murray in singles action but captain Leon Smith went with the team that lost narrowly to the USA, which meant the hometown hero playing doubles with Joe Salisbury against Wesley Koolhof and Matwe Middelkoop in what became the decider.

That meant Evans was first up and he was knocked out by the backing he received.

"We've been incredibly lucky," he said. "We played so many ties, here or Braehead. When the Murrays are in the team, it's an amazing thing for Scotland to be able to see that. They sort of took us in and really got behind the whole team. For me, it's the best place to play.

"I feel at home playing tennis here. You can hear the atmosphere. It's amazing. There's so many kids here this week. That's not happened so much in the past. It's been a bit of an older demographic – we've had a great influx.

"Kids stayed late the other night and are going nuts out there. That's only positive for British tennis."

Evans won with the minimum of fuss but admitted he had been annoyed by a heckling Dutch fan just before serving for the first set.

He said: "It's something I need to work on. It's not the best part of my game. In this atmosphere, it's even more key not to lose focus. There's a lot happening on the court, around the court."

Novak: Roger's career set tone

NOVAK DJOKOVIC paid tribute to Roger Federer's "integrity and poise" following the Swiss star's retirement announcement.

Federer revealed on Thursday that he will call time on his professional career at 41 after next week's Laver Cup in London.

Djokovic will also be part of Team Europe at The O2, with the big four of the Serb, Federer, Rafael Nadal and Andy Murray reuniting one last time.

Federer and Djokovic faced each other 50 times between 2006 and 2020, including in five Grand Slam finals.

And Djokovic wrote on Instagram: "Roger, it's hard to see this day and put into words all that we've shared in this sport together.

"Over a decade of incredible moments and battles to think back on. Your career has set the tone for what it means to achieve excellence and lead with integrity and poise.

"It's an honour to know you on and off court, and for many more years to come."

Serena Williams welcomed Federer to the 'retirement club', with the two greats bringing their careers to a close within a couple of weeks of each other.

She wrote on Instagram: "I have always looked up to you."

HEARTFELT: Djokovic praise

SPORT IN BRIEF

Premier League

ASTON VILLA (1)....1 SOUTHMPTN (0)...0
Ramsey 41 — Att: 40,758

NOTTM FOR (1)......2 FULHAM (0) 3
Awoniyi 11, O'Brien 77 — Adarabioyo 54, Joao Palhinha 57, Reed 60
Att: 28,654

Women's Super League

ARSENAL (1).........4 BRIGHTON (0) 0
Little 28, Blackstenius 50, Mead 63, 83 — **Att: 3,238**

RUGBY LEAGUE

Betfred Super League Semi-final

WIGAN..................8 LEEDS................20
Wigan—T: Marshall, Powell.
Leeds—T: O'Connor, Bentley (2). **G**: Hardaker (4).

RUGBY UNION

UNITED RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP: Benetton Treviso 33 Glasgow 11.

CYCLING

TOUR OF LUXEMBOURG: Stage 4 (Remich, 26.1km ITT) - 1 M Skjelmose Jensen (Den) Trek-Segafredo 34m 05s. **Overall** - 1 Skjelmose Jensen 13h 07m 27s, 2 K Vauquelin (Fra) Team Arkea-Samsic +3s, 3 S Bax (Hol) Alpecin-Deceuninck +14.

GOLF

ITALIAN OPEN (Rome)—**2nd rnd** (Gbr & Irl unless stated): **133** R McIlroy 67 66, **134** M Fitzpatrick 65 69, **135** T Lewis 70 65, **136** V Perez (Fra) 70 66, **137** T Hatton 72 65, L Herbert (Aus) 70 67, L Donald 69 68, J Smith 69 68, J Luiten (Ned) 66 71, S Garcia (Spa) 71 66, **138** A Wu (Chn) 70 68, N Hoejgaard (Den) 68 70, K Kitayama (USA) 71 67, A Rozner (Fra) 67 71, T Pulkkanen (Fin) 69 69, S Jamieson 67 71, O Bekker (Rsa) 68 70, M Schneider (Ger) 70 68, A Quiros (Spa) 67 71, **139** V Hovland (Nor) 71 68, A Fitzpatrick 70 69, R MacIntyre 70 69, M Southgate 70 69, E Kofstad (Nor) 72 67, F Michetti (Ita) 70 69.

LACOSTE LADIES OPEN DE FRANCE (Deauville)—**2nd Rnd** (Gbr & Irl unless stated,): **131** I Laklalech (Mor) 65 66, **132** M MacLaren 65 67, **134** C Boutier (Fra) 67 67, **135** N Broch Estrup (Den) 68 67, **136** E Peronnin (Fra) 68 68, M Simmermacher (Arg) 68 68, K Spilkova (Cze) 67 69, A Swayne U.S. (Ivb) 68 68, S Soenderby (Den) 67 69.

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP FINALS GROUP STAGE
Group D (Glasgow): D Evans (Gbr) bt T Griekspoor (Ned) 6-4 6-4, B Van de Zandschulp (Ned) bt C Norrie (Gbr) 6-4 6-2.

TODAY'S DIARY

CRICKET
Royal London One-Day Cup - Final: Kent v Lancashire (Trent Bridge, 11am).

GOLF (all weekend)
Italian Open (Rome).
Fortinet Championship (Napa).

ICE HOCKEY
Premier Sports Challenge Cup (7pm): **Group A** Belfast Giants v Fife Flyers, Glasgow Clan v Dundee Stars. **Group B:** Cardiff Devils v Guildford Flames. **Group C:** Sheffield Steelers v Manchester Storm. **Elite League:** Nottingham Panthers v Coventry Blaze.

RUGBY LEAGUE
Betfred Super League Semi-final: St Helens v Salford (1pm).
Betfred League 1 play-offs: North Wales Crusaders v Rochdale (5.30.

RUGBY UNION
Rugby Championship: Argentina v South Africa (8.10pm).

	P	W	D	L	B	F	A	Pts
New Zealand	5	3	0	2	2	155	114	14
Australia	5	2	0	3	2	128	154	10
South Africa	4	2	0	2	1	90	78	9
Argentina	4	2	0	2	1	102	129	9

Gallagher Premiership (3pm): Bath v Sale, Harlequins v Saracens, Leicester v Newcastle, Northampton v London Irish (2pm), Wasps v Bristol.
United Rugby Championship (3.05): Edinburgh v Dragons (7.35), Lions v Blue Bulls, Scarlets v Ospreys (5.15), Ulster v Connacht (7.35), Zebre v Leinster (1pm), Cardiff Rugby v Munster.
RFU Championship (3pm): Ampthill v Ealing Trailfinders, Bedford v London Scottish, Hartpury RFC v Doncaster (2.30), Jersey Reds v Coventry, Richmond v Caldy.

TENNIS (all weekend)
Davis Cup Finals - Group Stage (Glasgow).
WTA Slovenia Open (Portoroz).
WTA Chennai Open (India).

TODAY'S DIARY

CRICKET
Women's First ODI: England v India (Hove, 11am).

ICE HOCKEY
Premier Sports Challenge Cup
Group A: Fife Flyers v Belfast Giants (6pm). **Group B:** Coventry Blaze v Cardiff Devils (5.30).
Elite League: Dundee Stars v Sheffield Steelers (5pm), Guildford Flames v Glasgow Clan (6pm).

RUGBY LEAGUE
Women's Super League Grand Final: York City Knights Ladies v Leeds Rhinos (3.30).
Betfred Championship play-offs: Barrow v Batley (3pm), Halifax v York (5.30).
Betfred League 1 play-offs: Swinton v Doncaster (3pm).

RUGBY UNION
Gallagher Premiership: Worcester v Exeter (3pm).
RFU Championship: Nottingham v Cornish Pirates (3pm).

NORWICH V WEST BROMWICH ALBION 3PM
By James Nursey

Brandon can weave his magic

BRUCE BACKS STRIKER

STEVE BRUCE hopes he has found a rough diamond in Brandon Thomas-Asante, who can finally make West Brom shine.

Manager Bruce, below, is under pressure with Albion 20th in the Championship despite being one of the bookies pre-season favourites for automatic promotion.

They are outside the bottom three only on goal difference after just one win in nine games.

It has piled on the agony for Bruce, who has had to wheel and deal in free transfers and loans since taking over in February.

But one of his few cash buys is already looking promising after he found £300,000 for Thomas-Asante, who scored five goals this season for League Two Salford before stepping up.

The striker has since scored in both his appearances for Albion as a sub and is pushing for his full debut at Norwich today.

Bruce spotted the forward while watching his son-in-law, Matt Smith, play for Salford. He said: "I do believe there are diamonds out there and you have to be lucky to find them. I was out of work and went and watched Salford and saw this kid and felt he has something.

"He is raw but they are out there. You don't see them as often because the academies have so many players out on loan.

"We seem to forget about the lower divisions but they are still there and, when you have not much money, it is where you are shopping."

Bruce was furious in midweek after blaming "hideous" errors for a 3-2 home defeat by Birmingham. Albion conceded the first goal for the eighth time in 11 games this season and the fifth game on the spin.

"It has been more difficult than I thought moving in," said Bruce.

"We can't keep making the individual errors for goals – it is too many. It is blighting the good performances we have had. We have to sharpen up.

"There is no one more disappointed in a defeat than me. The next day it hits you even worse. But we will be better after the international break. I still think we will be there or thereabouts. Given time, I will get it right."

Bruce confirmed Albion's USA striker Daryl Dike, who has a thigh injury, is a few weeks away from fitness but feels he could be fit for the World Cup.

ON THE PACE: Thomas-Asante during training

Carroll's 'andy with his feet

WIGAN V READING 3PM

PAUL INCE has hailed Andy Carroll for his ability on the floor – and compared him to Peter Crouch.

Striker Carroll, above, is in line for a second Reading debut today after signing a short-term deal. And the Royals manager said: "When you look at the height of Andy and Peter Crouch, you think they're just good at heading.

"But, technically, they have both been very good, exceptional players with their feet."

IAN BAKER

NEIL: LET'S PUSH ON

QPR V STOKE CITY 3PM

NEW Stoke manager Alex Neil has told his players to maintain their momentum.

Michael O'Neill's successor has taken four points from his first three games after an emphatic 3-0 win at Hull.

Neil, right, said: "I want us to be comfortable with the pace and the way we do things – we want to get up and get after the ball. We want to be direct in our play and we want to make sure the fans want to come and know we are capable of getting a result.

"We have had one good result and now we need to capitalise on the momentum."

JAMES NURSEY

FOXES EASY ON VARDY

BRENDAN RODGERS says Leicester must adjust their reliance on Jamie Vardy as he enters his twilight years – but warned: "Write him off at your peril."

The 35-year-old striker, right, is yet to get off the mark for the rock-bottom Foxes this season and was on the bench in their 5-2 defeat by Brighton.

Rodgers instead opted to pair £48million strike duo Patson Daka and Kelechi Iheanacho up front, with each finding the target.

Vardy, who is third on Leicester's all-time goalscoring list and fired them to Premier League glory in 2016, now finds himself battling for a starting place as the Foxes bid to end a run of five straight league defeats at Tottenham today.

Rodgers said: "It's just respecting where he is at this stage of his career.

"The two guys came in and did very well in the last game.

"But you can never write Jamie off because he still has that hunger, that drive, and that desire."

BRENDAN McLOUGHLIN

A MARKED MAN: Son is getting close attention this term

SIT IT OUT SON

TOTTENHAM V LEICESTER
5.30PM, SKY SPORTS
By Matthew Dunn

Korean facing rare break as Conte strives to spark Spurs

HEUNG-MIN SON looks set to be rested for the first time in the Premier League in more than two years as he struggles to rediscover his form from last season.

Tottenham head coach Antonio Conte has vowed to go for "energy" against Leicester after the Champions League defeat by Sporting Lisbon on Tuesday.

Son looks set to be one of the fall guys after it emerged he has taken on and beaten just one player this season.

Last term, as well as winning the Golden Boot with 23 goals, Son attempted 103 dribbles and was successful 51 times.

In the opening six league games this season, not only has he failed to hit the target even once, he has attempted to take on opponents only 12 times.

All bar Fulham's Joao Palhinha in Spurs' most recent top-flight match have managed to dispossess him.

With Dejan Kulusevski champing at the bit having started the past three games on the bench, Son looks likely to be dropped when fit for the first league match since the 0-0 draw at Bournemouth in July 2020.

Conte said: "Saturday we need energy. For sure I will make rotations on Saturday.

"But I repeat – Sonny for me would be never, never a problem. I hope to have my problems like him! We are talking about one of the best two players that we have in our team. It can happen that in some games he can't play from the start. Only to protect him, though, to give the possibility to rest. To take care of his energy and to help us win."

Having initially defended the form of the South Korean, Conte now admits he is suffering slightly from a hangover after last season's remarkable performance.

But is it a loss of confidence or is Son becoming more of a marked man?

"Half and half," Conte said. "In the sense that when you finish the last season top scorer, a lot of light is shone on you from opponents. If they come to play Sonny, they know he kicks on the right, kicks on the left, is faster…

"When you score a lot of goals the following season is more difficult because you are not an underdog.

"So when you don't score, for sure the confidence goes a bit down.

"At the same time, a strong player copes with this situation, faces this situation head on and overcomes this situation."

TIME TO REFRESH: Conte is keen to give Son protection

Lamps keeps spotlight on Dom's injury

EVERTON V WEST HAM
2.15PM, TOMORROW, SKY SPORTS

FRANK LAMPARD has revealed Everton are constantly monitoring Dominic Calvert-Lewin's training in a bid to solve his injury misery.

The striker has yet to play this season after suffering a freak knee issue on the eve of the campaign, but could return against West Ham tomorrow.

Calvert-Lewin had an injury-plagued 2021-22 as he featured just 18 times after missing four months.

Everton manager Lampard said: "I have been in these situations a lot. I have played with players and coached players, particularly at Chelsea, where there are recurring injuries.

"There are no scientific or factual solutions. Sometimes you just have to work with the player, see how they are; rest days, strengthening plans, it's all very important.

"We are constantly talking to Dominic and analysing how he can stay fit and strong for a prolonged period."

Everton hope Calvert-Lewin rediscovers the form that led to him netting 21 goals in the 2020-21 season and earn a spot in England's Euro 2020 squad.

But Lampard will not put extra pressure on Calvert-Lewin to hit the ground running, saying: "Dominic is a top-level striker. He knows he has got support and advice from me. I know what he can give us, and he is experienced enough to deal with it.

"All we want is Dominic fit and firing. I just hope to see him playing regular football. Dominic is certainly not getting any undue pressure from me."

CHRIS McKENNA

CALVERT-LEWIN: Striker has been plagued by injury

YOUR GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND'S PREMIER LEAGUE FIXTURES

WOLVES v MANCHESTER CITY

● Three of Wolves' four Premier League victories over Manchester City have come in home games ● After losing both league meetings against the Wanderers in 2019-20, City have won each of their past four encounters

KICK-OFF: 12.30pm, BT Sport

HOW THEY LINE UP

WOLVES (4-3-3): Sa; Jonny, Collins, Kilman, Ait-Nouri; Nunes, Neves, Moutinho; Neto, Guedes, Podence.

MANCHESTER CITY (4-3-3): Ederson; Stones, Akanji, Ake, Cancelo; De Bruyne, Rodri, Gundogan; Bernardo, Haaland, Foden.

NEWCASTLE v BOURNEMOUTH

● Newcastle have lost just one of their past 13 Premier League home games (W8 D4), 1-0 against Liverpool in April ● Bournemouth have conceded a total of 18 goals in their six top-flight matches this season

KICK-OFF: 3pm

HOW THEY LINE UP

NEWCASTLE (4-3-3): Pope, Trippier, Schar, Botman, Targett; Joelinton, Guimaraes, Willock; Fraser, Almiron, Isak.

BOURNEMOUTH (3-5-2): Neto; Smith, Mepham, Kelly; Fredericks, Cook, Billing, Lerma, Tavernier; Moore, Solanke.

TOTTENHAM v LEICESTER

● Tottenham have won seven of their past nine Premier League games against Leicester (L2), including the past three ● Leicester have been defeated in four of their past five top-flight away matches against Spurs

KICK-OFF: 5.30pm, Sky Sports

HOW THEY LINE UP

TOTTENHAM (3-4-3): Lloris; Romero, Dier, Lenglet; Doherty, Hojbjerg, Skipp, Sessegnon; Kulusevski, Kane, Richarlison.

LEICESTER (3-5-2): Ward; Amartey, Evans, Faes; Justin, Ndidi, Tielemans, Maddison, Thomas; Daka, Vardy.

BRENTFORD v ARSENAL

● Brentford have won five of their six home league games against Arsenal (L1), including a 2-0 victory in this fixture last term ● None of the Gunners' past 23 top-flight matches have been drawn (W16 L7)

KICK-OFF: Noon, tom, Sky Sports

HOW THEY LINE UP

BRENTFORD (4-3-3): Raya; Hickey, Jansson, Mee, Henry; Jensen, Janelt, Dasilva; Mbeumo, Toney, Wissa.

ARSENAL (4-2-3-1): Ramsdale; White, Gabriel, Saliba, Tierney; Xhaka, Partey; Odegaard, Martinelli, Saka; Jesus.

EVERTON v WEST HAM

● Everton are winless in seven Premier League matches, with three defeats followed by four draws ● West Ham have won both of their past two top-flight away games against the Toffees, each by a 1-0 margin

KICK-OFF: 2.15pm, tom, Sky Sports

HOW THEY LINE UP

EVERTON (4-3-3): Begovic; Patterson, Coady, Tarkowski, Mykolenko; Onana, Gueye, Iwobi; Gray Maupay, Gordon.

WEST HAM (4-2-3-1): Fabianski; Coufal, Kehrer, Zouma, Emerson; Rice, Soucek; Bowen, Paqueta, Fornals; Antonio.

Double delight for marvellous Mead

ARSENAL 4 BRIGHTON 0

ARSENAL started their Women's Super League campaign in style by beating Brighton in front of a sell-out crowd at Meadow Park.

Every ticket was snapped up for the game following England's successful Euro 2022 campaign, as Lionesses Leah Williamson and Beth Mead, right, were expected to lead the Gunners to victory. The fans were not disappointed, as goals from Kim Little, Stina Blackstenius and a double from Mead secured the points.

Arsenal made a perfect start when Brighton defender Emma Kullberg caught Blackstenius' heels as she raced through on goal. Referee Lisa Benn was left with no choice but to dismiss Kullberg.

The opening goal came in the 28th minute when Caitlin Foord got in behind Brighton's defence and found Arsenal skipper Little in the box for a convincing finish.

Blackstenius doubled their lead just five minutes after the interval with a clinical effort.

Mead was next to score as Vivianne Miedema set her up for a simple finish.

Jordan Nobbs hit the bar before Mead scored her second, hammering home.

FOREST FLAW

Cooper's men crumble as they lose five-goal thriller

NOTT'M FOREST	2
FULHAM	3

By **John Wragg**

NOTTINGHAM FOREST suffered another second-half blitz as they struggle to get a hold on life in the Premier League.

Taiwo Awonyi put them ahead after 11 minutes, but in a repeat of their collapse against Bournemouth, Fulham blasted in three in five minutes and 18 seconds of the second half.

Sub Lewis O'Brien gave Forest hope of salvaging something 13 minutes from time but Fulham were too wise for them.

It leaves Forest with four successive defeats and manager Steve Cooper a lot to do to knit together his 22 signings into a team capable of staying up.

Tosin Adarabioyo launched the comeback in the 54th minute and Joao Palhinha and Harrison Reed followed him.

With nine goals conceded in their previous two games, Forest brought in Willy Boly to try and bring confidence to a suspect defence. But there is nothing better than an early goal to get the blood pumping and Awonyi saw to that.

Morgan Gibbs-White's corner was met by Ryan Yates and his header glanced away to Awonyi for him to head Forest in front from six yards.

They were 2-0 ahead against Bournemouth but collapsed to a 3-2 and this was a fresh examination of what the future will look like. Aleksandar Mitrovic, who got two the last time Fulham were at the City Ground and belted four past Forest in the Championship in October, had Dean Henderson scrambling to save.

That was Cooper's first defeat as Forest boss but he's tasting a few more now.

Forest's plan was to hit Fulham on a quick break from defence and they did it twice in the early minutes of the second half.

When you are playing the percentages like that you need to take those moments and Forest did not.

The fact that Gibbs-White was full of ideas in midfield maintained Forest as a threat but they were undone by a simple corner and set plan.

Willian sent the ball over and central defender Adarabioyo peeled away, got himself in position and headed Fulham level. Simple.

But Palhinha's goal three minutes later was a cracker. Kenny Tete set it up with a squared pass and Palhinha rocketed it in. Forest were reeling and were knocked out by Reed. Bobby De Cordova-Reid made this one down the left side and Reed just smashed another one past Henderson.

O'Brien made a difference when he came on and Fulham caved under the new pressure as he returned with interest a poor clearance.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: (3-4-1-2): Henderson 6; Boly 5, Cook 6, McKenna 5; Williams 6 (Dennis 87) , Yates 7, Freuler 6 (O'Brien 70), Lodi 6; Gibbs-White 8; Johnson 6, Awoniyi 6. **GOALS:** Awoniyi 11, O'Brien 77.

FULHAM: (4-2-3-1): Leno 6; Tete 7, Adarabioyo 7, Diop 7, Ream 7; Reed 6, Palhinha 8; Willian 6 (Cairney 83), Pereira 7 (Cairney 83), De Cordova-Reid 7; Mitrovic 6 (Vinicius 89). **GOALS:** Adarabioyo 54, Palhinha 57, Reed 60.

NOTT'M FOREST	v	FULHAM
40	POSSESSION %	60
3	SHOTS ON TARGET	6
5	SHOTS OFF TARGET	3
3	BLOCKED SHOTS	5
2	CORNERS	10
11	FOULS	10
2	YELLOW CARDS	4
0	RED CARDS	0

Source: Opta

RAPID FIRE Adarabioyo heads in Fulham's first goal as they grab three in five minutes

Arteta tempts Bees striker Ivan to post another

BRENTFORD V ARSENAL
12PM, TOMORROW, SKY SPORTS

MIKEL ARTETA has dared Ivan Toney to tweet another spiky message before tomorrow's game at the Gtech Community Stadium.

The Arsenal manager used a post from the Brentford striker as inspiration ahead of a 2-1 triumph for the home team at the Emirates in February.

Now Arteta says he is standing poised with his whiteboard marker, just waiting for Toney to take to Twitter again.

The 26-year-old is one of the men of the moment, having seen his hat-trick against Leeds last time out rewarded with a call-up to Gareth Southgate's England squad to face Italy and Germany in the Nations League this month.

But in Arteta's thoughts, Toney made a name for himself more than a year ago, when he posted a cheeky tweet after promoted Brentford's shock opening-day 2-0 win over Arsenal.

The Amazon Prime documentary All or Nothing showed the comment was still bugging him when the two teams played the reverse fixture earlier this year.

Arteta, below, reminded his players by writing it on his display board just minutes before they headed on to the pitch.

"Before I go, because it's still in my stomach and I have managed to keep it for four months, five months, six months," said the 40-year-old Spaniard, pointing to Toney's tweet, 'Nice kick about with the boys', on the screen.

"Today they play in our house, guys there is only one team on that f****** pitch and it's us.

"We take that f****** ball, we take the game, we go for it and let's f****** win this game."

Arteta will again have his social media team keeping tabs on Toney's accounts before tomorrow's lunchtime kick-off.

"I haven't written the script for the pre-match message," said Arteta with a smile yesterday.

"So, if he has any messages he wants to post before then, I could always write them down." Either way, Arteta says this time it will be men against men.

"Brentford have given us a lot of arguments in the last year or two," he said.

"You have to really believe that you're going to go there and have a big battle.

"You're going to suffer if you want to go there and get three points out of that stadium.

"I believe they are very clear on that and we have many examples."

After his Premier League-leading team registered five victories from five matches in August, Arteta is

ASTON VILLA	1
SOUTHAMPTON	0

By **James Nursey**

STEVEN GERRARD'S Aston Villa rose to the occasion after he ordered them to give fan Prince William a performance to be proud of.

Villa splashed the late Queen across their programme and delivered a rousing rendition of the national anthem before kick-off after a minute's silence.

Gerrard's men then recovered from a slow start to take a half-time lead through Jacob Ramsey.

They ran out deserved winners with a dominant second-half display which included a standing ovation in the 70th minute for the late monarch's reign.

The victory eases the pressure on Gerrard, whose predecessor Dean Smith was axed last November after a 1-0 defeat at Southampton.

Gerrard's side built on their impressive comeback against Manchester City to climb to 13th.

The manager made two changes to the side that fought back to hold City last time out, Ashley Young and Philippe Coutinho coming in.

Saints made a single change from their loss at Wolves with Moussa Djenepo replacing Joe Aribo.

Villa struggled to sustain much early possession but Leon Bailey, who netted their equaliser against the champions, was a lively outlet.

Saints were the more dangerous side and Ezri Konsa had to make a vital sliding clearance to cut out a cross to Che Adams.

Romain Perraud also had a sight of goal from a long throw which was not cleared but he produced an embarrassing air-shot in the box.

Villa eventually grew into the contest as Coutinho tricked his way into space on the edge of the box and thumped a shot over.

The Brazilian went even closer with a back post header which Southampton's Irish keeper Gavin Bazunu saved at his near post.

Bazunu was called into action moments later to palm a header from Ollie Watkins on to the bar following Coutinho's cross.

And Ramsey was on hand to bury the follow up in the 41st minute with a left-foot finish which survived a VAR check for offside. It was his first goal of the season.

It could have been even worse for the visitors as Leon Bailey also flashed a low shot across goal and Coutinho had a free-kick blocked by the wall.

A PRIME NUMBER The perfect symmetry as No.41 Ramsey strikes for Villa in the 41st minute

Jacob's cracker is so tasty for Gerrard

RAMSEY HITS SAINTS HOPES

Southampton boss Ralph Hasenhuttl could only put his face in his hands and he was sufficiently unimpressed to make a double change at the break.

Yet despite using all five substitutes in the second half, Hasenhuttl's side failed to seriously trouble Emiliano Martinez, who kept his first clean sheet of the season.

A VILLA	v SOUTHAMPTON	
52	POSSESSION %	48
3	SHOTS ON TARGET	1
3	SHOTS OFF TARGET	3
5	BLOCKED SHOTS	3
6	CORNERS	3
13	FOULS	13
3	YELLOW CARDS	1
0	RED CARDS	0

Source: Opta

ASTON VILLA (4-3-2-1): Martinez 7; Young 8, Konsa 7, Mings 8, Digne 6; Ramsey 7 (Dendoncker 67, 6), Kamara 6 (Luiz 45, 6), McGinn 6; Bailey 7 (Buendia 67, 6), Coutinho (Ings 84); Watkins 7. **Goal:** Ramsey 41.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-2-3-1): Bazunu 6; Walker-Peters 6, Bella-Kotchap 6, Salisu 6, Perraud 5 (Larios 46, 6); Diallo 5 (Aribo 46), Ward-Prowse 6; Elyounoussi 7 (Edozie 79), Djenepo 6, A Armstrong 5 (S Armstrong 71); Adams 5 (Mara 71).

PLAN OF ATTACK: Gerrard instructs his Villa players

HOW THEY STAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	6	5	0	1	14	7	15
Man City	6	4	2	0	20	6	14
Tottenham	6	4	2	0	12	5	14
Brighton	6	4	1	1	11	5	13
Man Utd	6	4	0	2	8	8	12
Fulham	7	3	2	2	12	11	11
Chelsea	6	3	1	2	8	9	10
Liverpool	6	2	3	1	15	6	9
Brentford	6	2	3	1	15	9	9
Leeds	6	2	2	2	10	10	8
Newcastle	6	1	4	1	7	6	7
Southampton	7	2	1	4	7	11	7
Aston Villa	7	2	1	4	6	10	7
Bournemouth	6	2	1	3	5	18	7
Wolves	6	1	3	2	3	4	6
Crystal Palace	6	1	3	2	7	9	6
Everton	6	0	4	2	4	6	4
West Ham	6	1	1	4	3	8	4
Nottm Forest	7	1	1	5	6	17	4
Leicester	6	0	1	5	8	16	1

cheeky message on Twitter

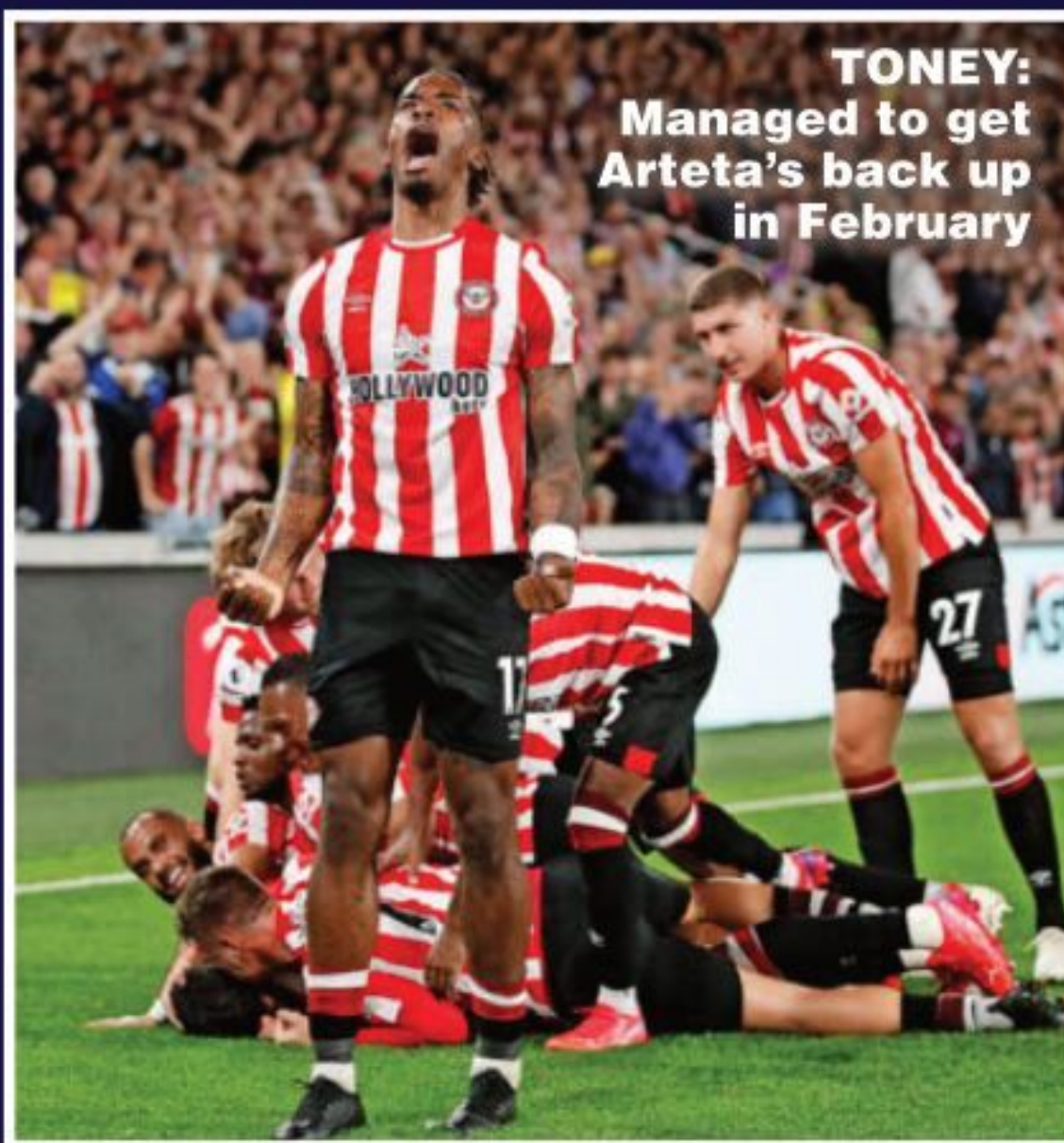
determined that the Manager of the Month award is not going to prove to be a curse again.

The last time he picked up the trophy in March, Arsenal proceeded to lose their next three games and, with it, they also crashed out of Champions League contention.

"I will send it back," joked Arteta.

"No, let's change it so that the next one, I can have it and enjoy having it, and live without fears for the next few weeks.

"Let me be the one who can change the story."

MATTHEW DUNN

TONEY: Managed to get Arteta's back up in February

ENGLAND CALL LEFT TONEY 'SPEECHLESS'

BRENTFORD head coach Thomas Frank says Ivan Toney was left "speechless" after being picked by England for the first time.

Ahead of tomorrow's home game with leaders Arsenal, Frank revealed that he had been handed the happy task of giving his 26-year-old striker the news on Thursday.

"I got to call him," said the Dane. "It is not often Ivan is speechless.

"It also adds another level to what we are selling recruitment-wise, that players can develop and go to the next level."

The rise of Toney, let go by Newcastle four years ago after a series of loans to the lower leagues, to new and dizzying heights has mirrored that of his club. Frank hopes the first England call-up for a Brentford player in 83 years will inspire his forward to score once or twice against the Gunners.

Toney already has five goals this season and Frank said: "It's a wonderful story.

"From the club's perspective, [PA announcer] Peter Gilham, who is 'Mr Brentford' around here, put it very well.

"He told me that 15 years ago we were bottom of League Two and lost at home 3-0 to MK Dons in front of 4,000 fans.

"Fifteen years later we get our first England international in 83 years and we are playing our second season in the Premier League. That, too, is a remarkable story and you can see the pride in the eyes of the people at the club and the fans."

HECTOR NUNNS

12X

TODAY

(3pm unless stated)

Premier League
1 Brighton v Crystal Palace . **OFF/Panel**
2 Newcastle v AFC Bournemouth........
3 Tottenham v Leicester (5.30pm)......
(Live on Sky Sports Main Event)
Wolves v Man City (12.30pm) ....

Sky Bet Championship
4 Birmingham v Coventry..................
5 Burnley v Bristol City ....
6 Huddersfield v Cardiff....................
7 Luton v Blackburn ....
8 Middlesbro v Rotherham (7.45pm) ..
(Live on Sky Sports Football)
9 Millwall v Blackpool ....
10 Norwich v West Brom ....
11 Preston v Sheff Utd.......................
12 QPR v Stoke ....
Swansea v Hull (12.30pm).............
(Live on Sky Sports Football)
13 Watford v Sunderland ....
14 Wigan v Reading ....

Sky Bet League One
15 Accrington Stanley v Cheltenham.....
16 Bolton v Peterborough ....
17 Bristol Rovers v Lincoln City...........
18 Cambridge Utd v Barnsley..............
19 Derby v Wycombe..........................
20 Exeter v Burton ....
21 Fleetwood Tn v Charlton ....
22 Forest Green v Morecambe ....
23 Oxford Utd v MK Dons ....
24 Portsmouth v Plymouth..................
25 Port Vale v Shrewsbury..................
26 Sheff Wed v Ipswich ....

Sky Bet League Two
27 Bradford City v Stevenage..............
28 Carlisle v AFC Wimbledon ....
29 Colchester v Grimsby.....................
30 Crewe v Crawley Tn ....
31 Doncaster v Swindon.....................
32 Gillingham v Mansfield ....
33 Leyton Orient v Walsall ....
34 Newport Co v Barrow.....................
35 Northampton v Rochdale ....
36 Salford City v Tranmere.................
37 Stockport County v Harrogate Tn.....
38 Sutton v Hartlepool ....

Vanarama National League
Aldershot v FC Halifax (5.20pm)......
(Live on BT Sport 1)
Bromley v Maidstone Utd...............
Dag & Red v Altrincham.................
Dorking Wanderers v Notts County ..
Gateshead v Boreham Wood...........
Maidenhead v Woking....................
Oldham v Eastleigh ....
Scunthorpe v York ....
Solihull Moors v Barnet ....
Southend v Wrexham.....................
Wealdstone v Torquay....................
Yeovil v Chesterfield ....

cinch Scottish Premiership
39 Hibernian v Aberdeen ....
40 Livingston v Kilmarnock ....
41 Rangers v Dundee Utd....................
42 St Johnstone v Ross County ....

cinch Scottish Championship
43 Dundee v Inverness CT..................
44 Hamilton v Queen's Park................
45 Morton v Arbroath ....
46 Partick v Cove Rangers..................
47 Raith v Ayr ....

cinch Scottish League One
48 Airdrieonians v Clyde ....
49 Alloa v Montrose ....
Dunfermline v Falkirk.....................
Peterhead v Kelty Hearts ....
Queen of South v FC Edinburgh.......

cinch Scottish League Two
Albion v Forfar...............................
Annan Athletic v East Fife ....
Dumbarton v Bonnyrigg Rose ....
Stenhousemuir v Elgin....................
Stirling v Stranraer ....

Northern Premier Divison: Belper Tn v Ashton Utd, Matlock Tn v Warrington Rylands, Stafford Rgrs v Radcliffe, Stalybridge Celtic v Nantwich Tn.

Isthmian Premier: Haringey Borough v Horsham.

Welsh Premier: Caernarfon Tn v Haverfordwest County, Cardiff Met Uni v The New Saints FC, Flint Tn United v Bala Tn, Newtown v Penybont, Pontypridd Utd v Airbus UK Broughton.

Danske Premiership: Ballymena Utd v Carrick, Glenavon v Cliftonville, Glentoran v Coleraine, Portadown v Larne.

FA Women's Super League: Man Utd v Reading (12noon).

TOMORROW

Premier League
Brentford v Arsenal (12noon) ....
(Live on Sky Sports Main Event)
Everton v West Ham (2.15pm) ....
(Live on Sky Sports Main Event)

cinch Scottish Premiership
Motherwell v Hearts ....
St Mirren v Celtic (12noon)............
(Live on Sky Sports Football)

Isthmian Premier: Cray Wanderers v Bowers & Pitsea.

FA Women's Super League: Aston Villa v Man City (12.30pm, Live on BBC 2), Leicester v Tottenham, Liverpool FC v Chelsea (5pm, Live on Sky Sports Football), West Ham v Everton.

FA Women's Championship: Bristol City v Sunderland, Charlton v Birmingham City (2pm), Crystal Palace v Southampton (12.30pm), Durham v Blackburn (12noon), Lewes v London City (2pm), Sheff Utd v Coventry United (2pm).

PEP TALK: Guardiola has hit out at Grealish critics

Jack's the lad for me says Guardiola

FROM BACK PAGE

striker, a perfect person to manage, a nice guy – and this is the most important thing.

"But the quality he had before he came here means he has continued to do what he has done – we did not add many things."

The former Borussia Dortmund forward, who has walked away with August's Player of the Month award, can help City go top with a win at Wolves this lunchtime.

Liverpool, Chelsea and Manchester United have all had their games postponed.

Of the top six teams only Tottenham, who host Leicester tonight, and leaders Arsenal, who travel to Brentford tomorrow, are in action.

Guardiola, meanwhile, has told Jack Grealish to ignore the noise criticising his output, saying he is more than happy with the England playmaker's contribution.

Grealish has seen the spotlight swing his way after a slow start to the campaign.

Some pundits are suggesting he has failed to justify the hope and the hype after his record-breaking £100million transfer from Aston Villa in the summer of 2021.

But Guardiola slammed the detractors and defended his player, maintaining that Grealish's value to the team is unquestioned, whatever statistics might say. "I don't have any doubts about him, not at all," said the Spaniard.

"I'm delighted with his behaviour and everything.

"I want him to make goals and I want him to make assists – and he does too.

"But it's not about that, it's about his contribution without the ball and what he can produce for the other ones and the many, many things that he's able to do."

Grealish's season has been restricted to just four appearances by an ankle injury.

Now fit again, he produced an underwhelming 58-minute display against Dortmund on Wednesday.

Some have suggested his style slows the play down in contrast to Phil Foden, left, or Bernardo Silva, while others say Grealish's movement has become too predictable.

Six goals and four assists in his 44 appearances for the club – none this year – have proved a statistical rod for detractors to beat him with.

Guardiola added: "We didn't sign him for the incredible goals or assists he had at Aston Villa. It was another reason and when he played he did it.

"He competes with top, top players as well and he knows it perfectly. Last game in the final third he was the only one up front who made aggressive runs one against one."

Copying Howe's Cherries spirit

MAJOR PLAYERS Pope, left, is in the England frame, while, below, Isak made a mark on his debut

EDDIE HOWE has identified his biggest challenge in swapping Bournemouth for Newcastle.

NEWCASTLE V BOURNEMOUTH 3PM
By Simon Bird

The Toon head coach faces the club he guided through the divisions into the Premier League for the first time.

Howe was Bournemouth manager for 356 games in two spells, taking them to the top flight on a limited budget, and is trying to turn rich Newcastle into trophy contenders.

The 44-year-old says he wants the same "spirit and unity" he grew among his Cherries players to take root at St James' Park.

He said: "My biggest challenge when I came to the club was getting the dressing room in a position where everyone is going in the same direction. You can't have anyone going against the team.

"Everyone's supporting each other, whether they're in the team or not, everyone's fighting for each other, everyone's giving more. And I think we've built a culture where the dressing room is doing those things.

"That never stays constant [even with big money signings], and so the challenge you have as a manager is, through time and lots of difficult challenges, to try to keep that fabric together. That's the most difficult part.

"It's not impossible, you can do it. Your recruitment has to be very good, you have to get the right people into the club. Ultimately you need to freshen things up. It's a very delicate balance."

As Bournemouth manager, Howe got a win at Newcastle with a Steve Cook goal in the second minute of injury time in November 2017.

On his time with the Cherries he said: "The staff and I have lots of connections. I feel huge gratitude to the club. I wouldn't be sitting in this position now if it wasn't for the people at Bournemouth. It will be a special game for us.

"I look back from time to time, but I don't sit and think about what we did. When I get grey and old I may look at it differently."

Howe is backing his goalkeeper Nick Pope to challenge for a start at the World Cup. Jordan Pickford is injured and Pope could be England's No.1 against Italy next Friday.

"He has shown for us how good he can be. He has kept goal so well, his distribution, on crosses, shot stopping. He has a big presence," said Howe.

He has also warned England not to write off Callum Wilson for Qatar. Wilson and Allan Saint-Maximin, who both have hamstring problems, are likely to miss today's game but Bruno Guimaraes should be fit after a similar injury.

Howe said: "There's still time. I'm a firm believer in Callum's abilities and I know Gareth Southgate is the same. He has to return and score, and he has to be consistent in his availability. Maybe he has to have a bit of luck somewhere else to make that plane.

"It will just fuel his motivation, so when he returns to the team he shows how good he is."

In Wilson's absence, £60million Alexander Isak leads the line looking for his first home goal. The former Real Sociedad striker is three weeks into his Toon career, having scored on his debut at Liverpool where he also had one ruled out for offside.

Howe said: "We've done a lot of work with him during this two-week period to build his fitness and his understanding of the team. He's done very well. The Liverpool game, he wasn't involved a great deal, but the two standout moments were the goals, although one did not count. They showed what he is capable of."

ON THE BAWL Howe gets his point across as Jacob Murphy and Kieran Trippier train

LAGE'S COSTA ALERT

WOLVES manager Bruno Lage has warned the Premier League to brace itself for the return of "the old Diego Costa".

The former Chelsea hard-man sealed his Wolves move this week and Lage joked: "If you're going to play one-on-one against him, he will break your leg if you needed to win the game".

While the Portuguese made it clear that was an exaggeration, he does want Costa to bring more menace to a goal-shy attack that has scored just three league goals this season.

Lage, whose team entertain Manchester City today, said: "I want combative players who do all they can do to win games.

"We can bring the old Diego Costa. That's what we need – a reference in the box.

"He's that kind of player – that's why he won what he won at Chelsea and Atletico Madrid.

"I asked him about his profile and personality. He told me that off the pitch he is one of the best guys but on the pitch he is very hard.

"That's the kind of man I want. Players like him and the others who have joined us can take us to a new level."

BRENDAN McLOUGHLIN

NO WORRIES : Cherries interim manager O'Neil

We'll treat it like any other

By Alex Crook

GARY O'NEIL is auditioning to be a Premier League manager – while still taking charge of a kids' team on a Sunday morning.

O'Neil has revealed he balances the role of Bournemouth's interim gaffer with bossing his son's team.

Not that their recent results are doing much to enhance O'Neil's claim to land the Bournemouth job full-time. He said: "I take my son's Sunday team for him, the Next Gen Under-9s. We lost the other day so that wasn't good for the CV.

"It is a small academy I set up for children around where I was brought up. It has benefited my little boy and loads of other kids in the area.

"I am going to be there to watch my little boy play football on a Sunday morning anyway, so it means he gets me shouting at him rather than somebody else.

"Who better to manage my boy, than me? It is enjoyable, although he might say different and might not enjoy it – but I do.

"The parent conversations are always tough. Fortunately, none of the Bournemouth lads have had their mums and dads ring me to ask why they are not playing."

EDDIE WANTS TO BE BOURN AGAIN

can make Newcastle united

BLOWN AWAY Howe says he feels a debt to the Cherries and it will be special to face them

'Challenge is to keep the club's fabric together'

game says kids' coach O'Neil

Bournemouth travel to Newcastle today to face their former manager Eddie Howe for the first time since he left the club in 2020.

O'Neil, an ex-team-mate of Howe's at Portsmouth, said: "The boys are very used to there being noises outside that can take away from what is just another game.

"They will always approach it as the next game, whether it is going back to your old club or an old manager, there will be something like that for somebody every week.

"Eddie's impact on the club was huge – I'm sure everyone around here is grateful for the fact that when he came in, they were in League Two and he took them to the heights of the Premier League.

"But the boys will approach it like we are going to Newcastle to win a game of football."

Bournemouth, meanwhile, are on the brink of becoming the latest American-owned Premier League club.

Veteran businessman Bill Foley, owner of National Hockey League side Vegas Golden Knights is in advanced talks with current owner Maxim Demin about a takeover worth more than £100million.

Sources close to the deal say it is expected to be concluded in a matter of weeks following summer-long negotiations.

BOND: Cherries' players with old manager Howe

RONALDO: Off the mark

Cristiano goals 'so big' for the team

By **David Anderson**

IT WAS only a penalty in a routine win against modest opposition, but Lisandro Martinez claims Cristiano Ronaldo's first goal of the season was huge for him and Manchester United.

Ronaldo's strike in the 2-0 Europa League victory against Sheriff Tiraspol on Thursday got him off the mark in his eighth outing of the campaign.

He was top scorer last season with 24 goals and Martinez says United will need him firing again as Erik ten Hag continues his Dutch revolution.

"We know how big Cristiano's goals are," said the defender.

"It's very important he scored for his confidence and for the team."

The superstar forward spent the summer trying to force a transfer but Ten Hag believes all that is in the past.

"He's committed to this project and to this team," said United's head coach.

"You see also connections forming around him and he is constructing connections, so I'm happy with that."

But Ten Hag does not see Ronaldo as his main striker, instead using the 37-year-old in a supporting role to Marcus Rashford.

He only started against Sheriff because Rashford was injured.

Ronaldo is not the only player to be demoted by Ten Hag, with club captain Harry Maguire another high-profile victim.

Maguire only came on in the 89th minute on Thursday, and it is clear Ten Hag sees him as his third-choice centre-half behind Martinez and Raphael Varane.

The former Leicester defender and team-mate Luke Shaw look like they are going to struggle for starts leading up to the World Cup in November – and that is a problem for England manager Gareth Southgate.

DAILY EXPRESS SPORT

express.co.uk/sport

CONTE GIVES SHATTERED SON A BREAK

SPURS BENCH KOREAN ACE: PAGE 83

HOWE OPTS TO CHERRY-PICK ROUTE TO TOP

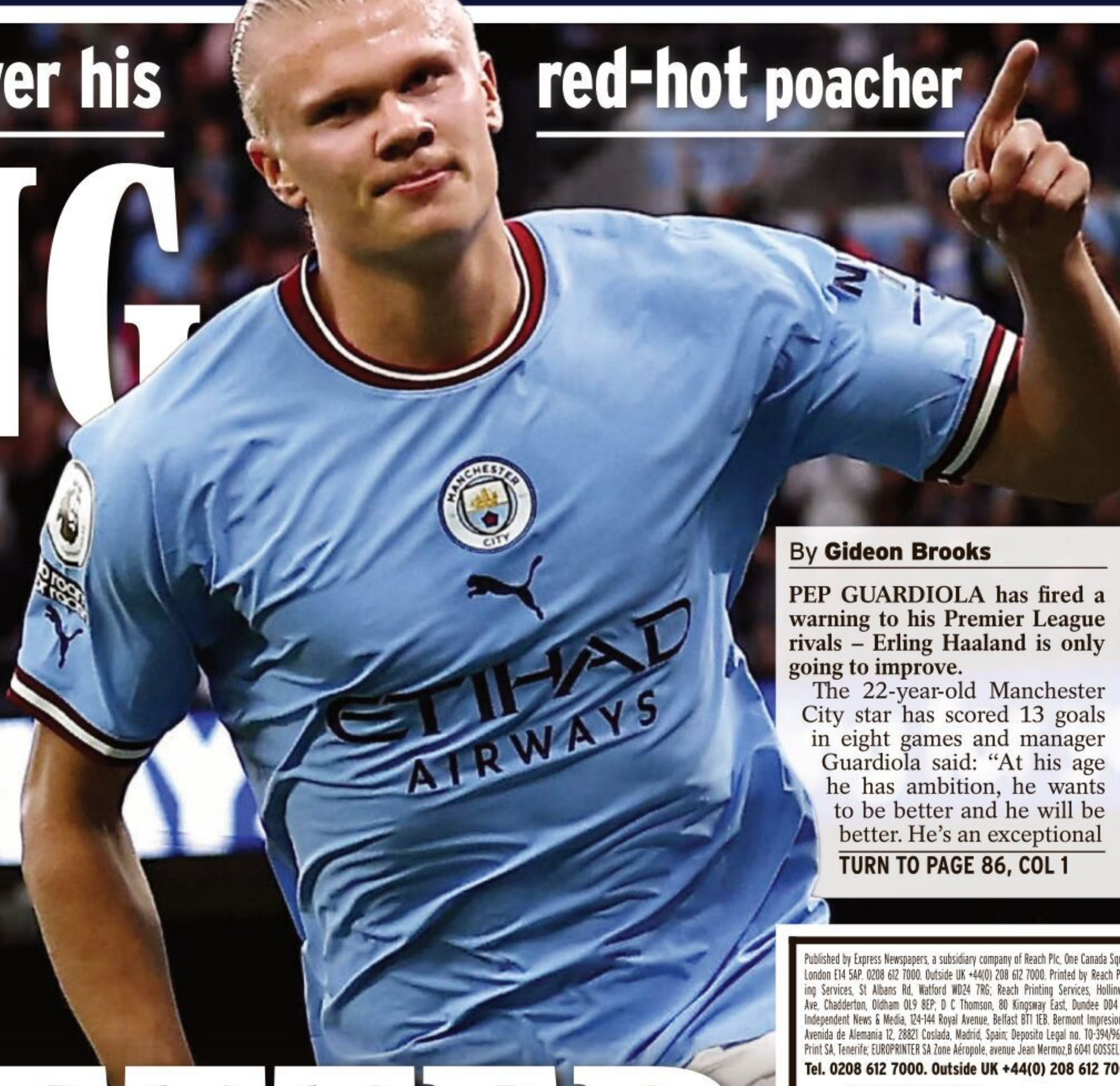
EDDIE COUNTING ON SPIRIT: PAGES 86-87

A VILLA 1 SOUTHAMPTON 0

RAMSEY EASES THE HEAT ON GERRARD: PAGE 85

NOTT'M FOREST 2 FULHAM 3

REED WRAPS IT UP FOR COTTAGERS: PAGE 84

RAM RAID: Jacob Ramsey's strike won it for Villa

THRILLER: Fulham's Joao Palhinha leads the celebration

Guardiola warns rivals over his red-hot poacher

ERLING CAN ONLY GET BETTER

HAALAND: Manchester City striker has already bagged 13 goals in eight matches for his new club

By **Gideon Brooks**

PEP GUARDIOLA has fired a warning to his Premier League rivals – Erling Haaland is only going to improve.

The 22-year-old Manchester City star has scored 13 goals in eight games and manager Guardiola said: "At his age he has ambition, he wants to be better and he will be better. He's an exceptional

TURN TO PAGE 86, COL 1

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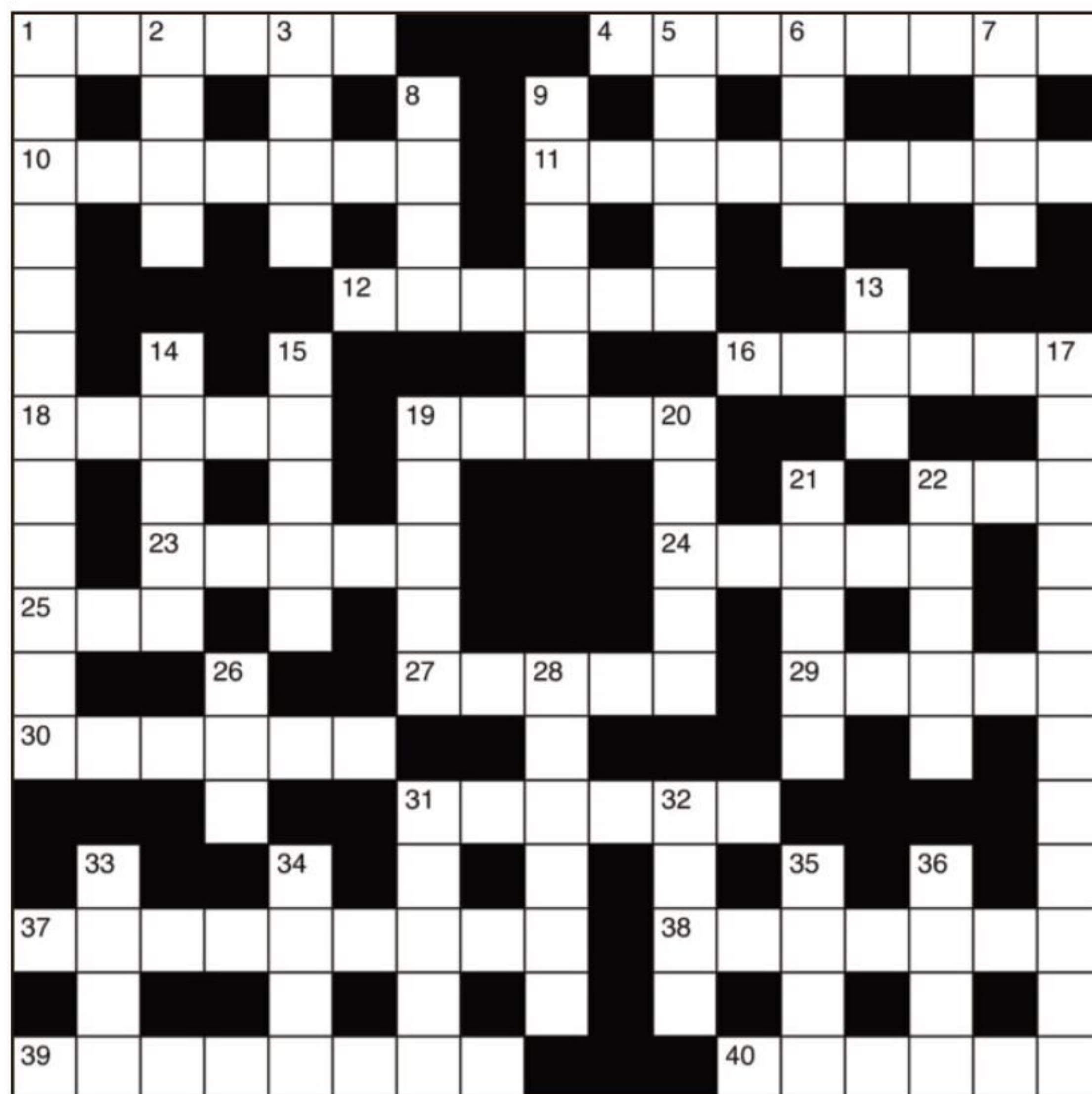
DAILY EXPRESS Puzzles EXTRA

Welcome to your brilliant Saturday Express eight-page puzzles pullout. We've got plenty here to keep you busy, from your favourite crosswords to brain-teasing sudokus and more. Enjoy!

ENTERTAINMENT CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 _ Lumley, received a BAFTA fellowship in 2017 (6)
4 Ed _, actor who starred in BBC2's White Gold (8)
10 _ Micklewhite, real name of Michael Caine (7)
11 Amanda _, played Mary in Sherlock (9)
12 _ Lincoln, star of The Walking Dead (6)
16 Bryson _, features on DJ Khaled's "Wild Thoughts" (6)
18 American R&B star (5)
19 _ Noise, X Factor 2015 contestant (5)
22 Star of the film Baby Driver, _ Hamm (3)
23 _ Watson, starred in the drama Apple Tree Yard (5)
24 Belgian-born fashion designer, _ von Furstenberg (5)
25 _ Goodman, ex-Strictly head judge (3)
27 _ Blood, British rock duo (5)
29 Alexandra _, won The X Factor in 2008 (5)
30 Rugby playing brothers Ben and Tom (6)
31 Ian _, novelist and screenwriter (6)
37 Nicholas _, actor best known for Only Fools And Horses (9)
38 Catherine _, French actress (7)
39 Creator of BBC2 comedy Upstart Crow (3,5)
40 Alan _, QI panellist (6)

DOWN

1 The Inbetweeners actor (5,7)
2 _ Nayar, Liz Hurley's ex-husband (4)
3 _ Morrissey, starred in The Good Karma Hospital (4)
5 Rock band fronted by Guy Garvey (5)
6 _ Fey, Saturday Night Live comedian (4)
7 Norman _, aka Fat Boy Slim (4)
8 _ Britton, TV presenter (4)
9 Calvin _, Scottish DJ and producer (6)
13 _ Larter, a star of the Resident Evil films (3)
14 Michael _, played an android in Passengers (5)
15 Daniel _, James Bond actor (5)
17 US hip hop supergroup (3,3,6)
19 John _, US singer and guitarist (5)
20 Rafael _, Spanish tennis star (5)
21 _ Logan, TV sports presenter (5)
22 Comedian and actor, _ Seinfeld (5)
26 _ Stubbs, Mrs Hudson in Sherlock (3)
28 Most Haunted presenter, _ Fielding (6)
31 _ Van Peebles, US actor and director (5)
32 Planet Of The Apes star, _ Serkis (4)
33 Jeremy _, talk show host (4)
34 _ Collins, singer, actor and drummer (4)
35 Tina Turner's original name, _ Mae Bullock (4)
36 _ Waterhouse, British actress and model (4)

CODEWORD

The number in each square corresponds to a letter. Work out the words in the grid using the letters provided. Fill in these known letters first, then use skill and judgement to work out the others.

1

Known letters: 10 = O, 25 = H

2

Known letters: 8 = L, 21 = O

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

SAMURAI SUDOKU

Normal sudoku rules apply for all five 9x9 sudokus, but the 9x9 inner sudoku shares four of its 3x3 boxes with those of the outside sudokus.

			1		2			6				8			3		5			
	4	9				2								5				4	8	
	5		3	4		9		1				3		1		9	4		7	
4		5		2	9										5	3		7		9
		3	8			4								9			7	3		
8			5					9				5					6			4
	2	1		6					6		4					6		9	4	
									8		9									
3		7			1				5		7				7			6		2
						9	3	1				6	8	5						
						2	8	7				4	1	9						
9		4			2				2		5				5			4		8
									7		8									
	2	8		6					1		3					3		9	6	
3			5					4				4					5			2
		6	2			9								9			8	6		
2		1		3	8										4	9		8		3
	8		3	4		1		6				3		4		6	2		8	
	1	5				2								2				3	7	
			8		1			5				7			9		3			

EASY SUDOKU 1

		8					9	1
	4		3		8		6	7
2		7		4		8	3	
	9		5		1			
	6	1				5	7	
					3		2	4
	2			5				3
9			2		4		1	
7	8	4		3	9	6		

HARD SUDOKU 1

		6		1	9		5	
		2	6			9		
5					7			
2		8						7
	6						4	
4						6		3
			7					8
		1			6	5		
	4		1	5		3		

NUMBERFIT 1

NUMBERFIT 2

Use logic to fit the listed numbers below into the corresponding grid.

Numberfit 1

2 digits: 23 24 32 34 56 61 63 65
3 digits: 153 234 351 414 431 434
4 digits: 2134 2324 4231 4312
5 digits: 51233 51533
7 digits: 5124226 5134115 6124116 6134225
9 digits: 123312451 223342451 421133454

Numberfit 2

2 digits: 68 69 74 77
3 digits: 116 169 314 419 472 819 883 914
4 digits: 1200 1401 1419 1854 2021 9076 9197 9586
5 digits: 91100 91907
6 digits: 148711 191011 967190 970720
8 digits: 24791709 78101791

ALPHADOKU 1

A 9 x 9 sudoku with

T								Y
S					X		W	
		V		Y	S			
R					Z			
V	W	T						
					Y		X	W
	Z		X			W		S
		R				X		
							Z	U

EASY SUDOKU 2

	1		8		5		4	
4		2		7				
				1	9			3
5	2	7	9			3	1	
		6			7	4		
	4	8		3	1	7	2	
3			7	8				2
	5					6		8
			5	6	3		7	

HARD SUDOKU 2

3	9	5			8			
		8				7		
4					5		3	
				4	7			
	3	4				1	9	
			1	9				
	8		7					4
		6				3		
			2			9	6	5

ALPHADOKU 2

n the letters R to Z.

W				Y				X
		S					U	
X					S		T	
V						W	X	
U	W		V				R	
					T		W	
	U			X		Y	S	
	R		S					U

FUTOSHIKI 1

FUTOSHIKI 2

Insert the numbers one to five in each row and each column, making sure that no number is repeated. The only symbols to guide you are the "greater than" (>) and "less than" (<) signs.

4

KILLER SUDOKU 1

KILLER SUDOKU 2

Each row and column hold the numbers 1 to 9 and the numbers in the cages must add to the given total. No number can be repeated in a cage.

KAKURO 1

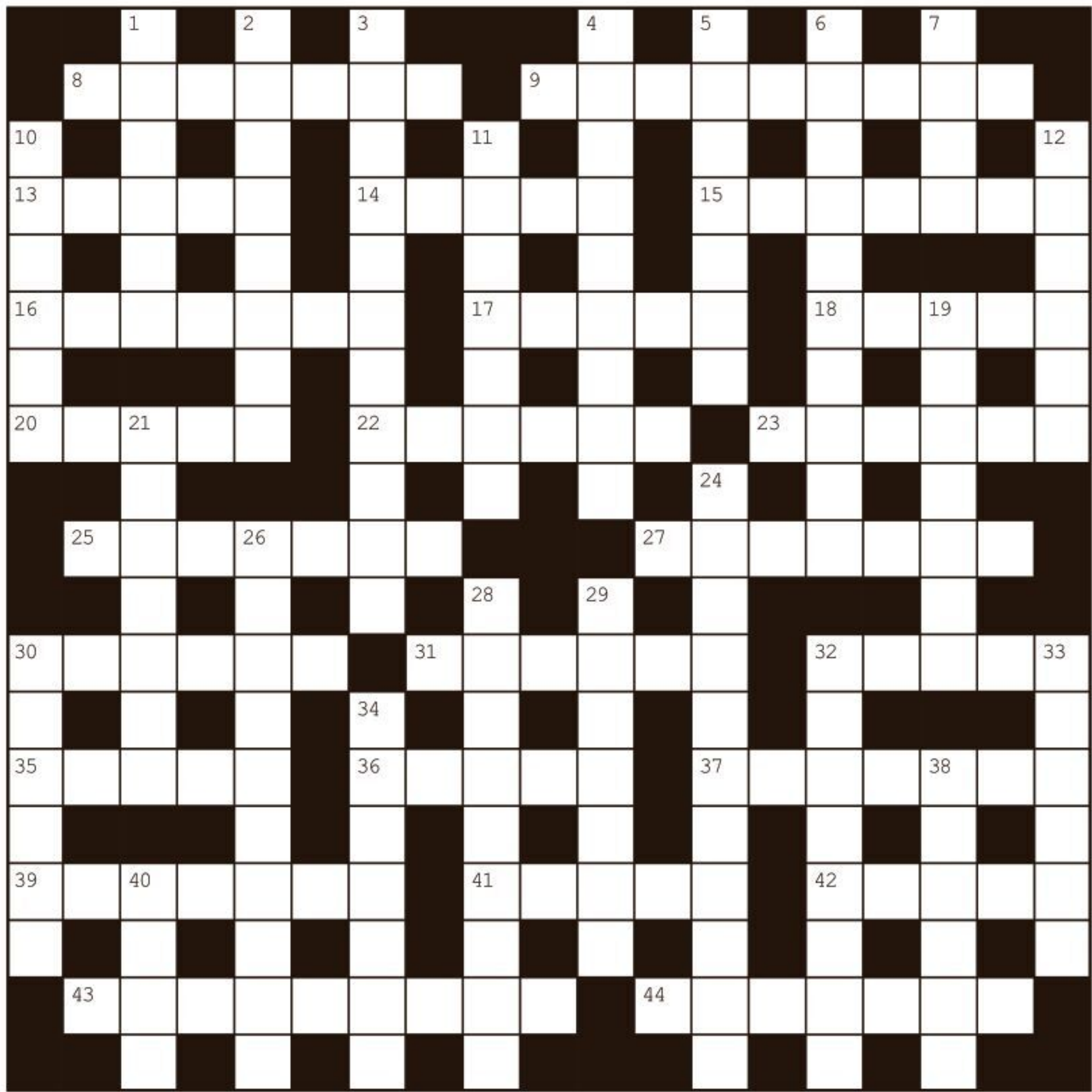
KAKURO 2

Fill in each series of blank squares using the numbers 1 to 9. Each series – across and down – must add up to the number in the shaded box at the beginning or top of the series. A number may be repeated in each line but not in a series.

BIG CROSSWORD 1

ACROSS
9 Canteen (9)
10 Siblings (8)
12 Long journey (4)
13 Box (6)
14 Ridiculous pretence (7)
15 Evidence (9)
17 Relate (9)
18 Live together (7)
20 Spin (6)
21 Fruit (4)
24 Obstinate (8)
26 Impassioned (8)
28 Betting chances (4)
29 Scattered (6)
31 Hearing range (7)
34 Remiss (9)
36 Effusive (9)
38 Cut short (7)
39 Gloomy (6)
40 Excessively sentimental (4)
41 Fastening (4,4)
42 Original model (9)

DOWN
1 Overjoyed (8)
2 Dessert, informally (6)
3 Prison escape (5-3)
4 Larder (6)
5 Ample (8)
6 Jumble (10)
7 Playhouse (7)
8 Fleet (6)
11 Nom de plume (3,4)
16 Drink (6)
19 Despised (5)
20 Manage (3)
22 Meal (5)
23 Come out (6)
25 Not working properly, informally (2,3,5)
26 Vehicle (3)
27 Link (7)
30 Guess (8)
31 Type of paint (8)
32 Ragged (8)
33 Long-necked animal (7)
35 Attic (6)
36 Continent (6)
37 Forever (6)

BIG CROSSWORD 2

ACROSS
8 Furniture item (4,3)
9 Perfect (9)
13 Creature (5)
14 Cuban dance (5)
15 Enterprise (7)
16 Japanese warriors (7)
17 Surpass (5)
18 New Zealand native (5)
20 Australian wild dog (5)
22 U.S. coin (6)
23 Connected to the internet (6)
25 Guess (7)
27 Verbatim (7)
30 Psychiatrist, informally (6)
31 Protect (6)
32 Assumed name (5)
35 Dirt (5)
36 Correct (5)
37 Dull (7)
39 Notable success (7)
41 Light wood (5)
42 Male relative (5)
43 Superfluous (9)
44 Cut off (7)

DOWN
1 Platform (6)
2 Marsupial (8)
3 Give evidence (4,7)
4 Available jobs or rooms (9)
5 Qualifications (1-6)
6 Cold dessert (10)
7 Biblical character (4)
10 Ill-used (6)
11 Bring an accusation against (7)
12 Berate (6)
19 Paper-folding art (7)
21 Impartial (7)
24 Weatherproof coat (11)
26 Boiled sweet (4,6)
28 Femur (9)
29 Cold-blooded creature (7)
30 Absence of danger (6)
32 Having a protective cover (8)
33 Season (6)
34 Plants (7)
38 Wealth (6)
40 Article (4)

TWO-SPEED CROSSWORD

This two-speed crossword has two sets of clues, but just one grid

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS
7. A weapon holder will make you tremble (6)
8. See 14 Down
10. This may involve one in mental upset (7)
11. See 16 Down
12. Six taken in by the Spanish vice (4)
13. Crime that makes the cleric lose his head (5)
17. Ring found in department store (5)
18. Back to look after the young (4)
22. Applied a bandage around an injury (5)
23. What will accrue from conflict among the Communists (7)
24. Approximately eighteen holes (6)
25. What to do with enemies in a revolution, one hears (6)

DOWN
1. Adopted a fighting attitude and evened up the account (7)
2. Lost – like a badly produced egg! (7)
3. Five observed all round as a different number (5)
4. Drawing of a ring in a box (7)
5. Make up for deficiencies an hour after midnight (5)
6. See 20 Down
9. Brilliant directorate can't be left on the ship (9)
14 & 8 Across This may be presented in a novel form (7,6)
15. Issued an edict of French religious belief (7)
16 & 11 Across Now is the time for using this (7,5)
19. Solemnly undertake to use bad language! (5)
20 & 6 Down Not working in the wrong rotation (3,2,5)
21. An excerpt from the show in Georgia is outstanding (5)

QUICK CLUES

ACROSS
7. Arrow case (6)
8. Substance (6)
10. Illness (7)
11. Taut (5)
12. Wicked (4)
13. Fire raising (5)
17. Warehouse (5)
18. Bring up (4)
22. Injury (5)
23. Gives in gratitude (7)
24. Enclosing (6)
25. Detain (6)

DOWN
1. Levelled (7)
2. Lost (7)
3. Number (5)
4. Animation (7)
5. Expiate (5)
6. See 20 Down.
9. Right side (9)
14. Recital (7)
15. Ordained (7)
16. Gift (7)
19. Curse (5)
20 & 6 Down Not in sequence (3,2,5)
21. Due (5)

JUMBO CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 13 Broke (7,3)
- 14 Dilapidated (3-4)
- 15 Greeted (6)
- 16 Extant (6)
- 17 Arrives (5,2)
- 18 Pulled (5)
- 19 Apportion (4)
- 20 Boundary (5)
- 21 Loathed (5)
- 22 Continue (6)
- 23 Rap (5)
- 28 Mad (7)
- 30 While (7)
- 33 Awful din (6,3)
- 36 Delay (4-2)
- 38 Move (5)
- 39 Cupboard (5)
- 40 Walk (6)
- 42 Jam (5)
- 43 Shorten (7)
- 44 Alleviation (6)
- 46 Tender (4)
- 49 Fish (4)
- 51 Builds (6)
- 53 Search (7)
- 55 Saying (5)
- 59 Cutters (6)
- 60 Blaze (5)
- 61 Say angrily (5)
- 62 Number (6)
- 63 So-and-so (3,2,1,3)
- 65 Recovered from (3,4)
- 66 Here (7)
- 70 Employees (5)
- 71 Regulate (6)
- 73 Subsequently (5)
- 75 Centre (5)
- 80 Sign (4)
- 82 Precise (5)
- 83 Coating (7)
- 84 Golf club (6)
- 85 Endeavoured (6)
- 86 Fired (4,3)
- 87 Keeping (8,2)

DOWN

- 1 Flatfish (6)
- 2 Understanding (6,2)
- 3 Blend (5)
- 4 Show (7)
- 5 Fast (6)
- 6 Sweep (5)
- 7 Gunman (6)
- 8 Competition (7)
- 9 Undecided (2,3,5)
- 10 Colour (5)
- 11 Small allowance (3,5)
- 12 Warmth (4)
- 24 Dish (7)
- 25 Mad (5)
- 26 Convinced (7)
- 27 Rots (4,3)
- 29 Perch (5)
- 31 Contort (5)
- 32 Manage (4)
- 34 Suppose (6)
- 35 Simple (4)
- 37 Resolved (7)
- 41 Remainder (7)
- 45 Urge (6)
- 47 Nationality (7)
- 48 Big house (7)
- 50 Resist (4,3)
- 52 Catch (4)
- 54 Cooker (5)
- 56 Naive (5)
- 57 Nought (4)
- 58 Strange (5)
- 60 Criticised (5,5)
- 64 Intermittently (3,3,2)
- 67 Opening (8)
- 68 Shorten (7)
- 69 Chorus (7)
- 72 Excellent (6)
- 74 Witness (6)
- 76 Case (6)
- 77 High temperature (5)
- 78 Blunder (5)
- 79 Voiced (5)
- 81 Friend (4)

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the six differences between these two pictures?

A

B

NUMBERCRUNCH

Follow the instructions from left to right, starting with the number given to reach an answer at the end of the row

BEGINNER 12	x3	+13	4/7 of this	-15	x4	+32	5/12 of this	-24	Squared	ANSWER
INTERMEDIATE 41	x3	+33	75% of this	-80	x2	+26	89% of this	-33	3/4 of this	ANSWER
ADVANCED 145	60% of this	-68	Squared	+27	75% of this	-167	3/4 of this	-78	x18	ANSWER

GIANT SUDOKU

Every row, every column and every 5 x 5 box must contain every digit from 1 to 9 and every letter from K to Z.

5	8			3		R		N		P		4					7	2	6	T	1	K		
N	P	T		1			Y		4	2											M		V	O
				4		1		T			U						S		W	3	2		P	
						6	2	W	X	K	8				9				M	Z		N		Q
Q					S		K	5	Z		1	3					P		L			W	R	Y
		S	R	Q	4		3	K	Y		L								9		N			U
		2				8	R					P		4	T		Z	K	X	5			1	
		1			L									3	P	Y		M			V	6	4	2
V	U					W	9			M		R					Q							P
	6			Y	7								5	9		1						R	S	
			V		O	7			8		M			K		2	T							S
		4	O				W	3	L		P		8		R			1		Y			5	K
	L	U			K	Y	N					2	6	W				O				4	7	V
S	Y	7		N				4		Z			T	V	K	X	L	W		6			M	
		R	1				X	Z	6		3		O			S	4		U				L	
3	W	N	S		U		4		7				Q					Y		O	L			
	1						S			U	R				6	8			3		Z	Q	W	
				8			Z	L			5	S						T	O					6
	X		7					1				N		6						K		3		
M	5	P	Y	U		T									W	9		R	2			X		
X	M		T							N						U	Y		8	V	5	O	9	W
	K		4	2	R	5	7	P				6	L	T				3				1	Z	
U			9		T			Y		7	S			M	X			L		P				8
	N				6			O	V			K	U			5					3			X
	Q	L	3			X		U	W				2						V					

MEDIUM SUDOKU 1

			3		5			
3				1				2
	2		8		9		4	
9	8						3	1
		4		3		7		
7	3						5	6
	6		5		2		1	
2				6				8
			4		7			

VERY HARD SUDOKU 1

		5	3			7	1	
	9			2				
4			7				6	
					8			5
3		1				4		7
5			4					
	2				1			8
				5			2	
	5	9			7	6		

CROSS OUT 1

Cross out one of the two letters in each divided square to reveal a completed crossword grid.

P / C	K / L	T / U	B / F	S / M
A / L	■	N / H	■	I / O
A / U	V / S	I / A	I / N	L / G
Y / S	■	N / T	■	K / H
S / E	H / G	Y / S	P / T	S / T

CROSS OUT 2

S / B	B / N	S / A	K / V	S / E
L / R	■	H / C	■	V / P
E / A	R / O	R / O	D / T	A / E
W / S	■	E / T	■	C / D
S / H	A / H	E / S	F / T	E / S

IMPOSSUDOKU 1

			8	6				
2						3	9	
1			5				7	4
	2							6
			3	7	5			
5			2				1	
9	1				2			7
	4	6						1
				3	4			

MEDIUM SUDOKU 2

		3				9		
	4			1			5	
	2	1		5	7	4		
4				3				8
		5	6		8		4	
3			2	4				9
		4	8	6		2	1	
	5			9				4
		8				7	9	

VERY HARD SUDOKU 2

			4			3		7
					5			
5		3				1		8
	3				2		7	
		1	3		6	4		
	6		9				1	
3		7				2		5
			7					
2		8			1			

IMPOSSUDOKU 2

			4			1		8
8					7			
	7	2			9	5		
			5			8		6
		5				3		
9		3			8			5
		1	6				2	
			3					1
4		6			2			

PATHFINDER 1

PATHFINDER 2

From the top corner, make a path of words linked to the theme. The trail goes through each letter once but never diagonally.

DRINKS

H C H S M O L A N G A P I C E
O T O O O P I S E R I I U J E
L O C C E A T A K E B N P P L
A T A G N N L H R R W E A N I
C E P N A L O S Y M A S A H R
H A M D I S N K L I R T I P I
E T D E C I G B E E E R A C L
A C T T D A I R E R W C O R A
O L N E A L R I G E O L F D I
U M I A P O C S N L D E R E N
D R E P I N A H I G R T I S I
Y L E P O O L C O F E Z R P W
M E P Y D Y B R E F E C C T E
O D E R A M A L T C E U I I H
N A M I N E R W A A P P N O W

SUPERHEROES

B P T A N S I E R Y S R M I N
A A C I A M L V S R T O S N V
T M L N A O W R U U F P U A I
N A R I M E T F T H E E R M S
S U P G I R A E R A M O L B I
R G E R C A C L E N S W E B O
I L T T O I R R V E H E L L Y
M I P S C N O A M H K H O R P
W D E N A M A I N U L E F O W
O N R W A P T H E X R S I D T
V L O O C K L U H G O S W E H
E R W M A M A N T R E C K F L
N I R O N R E D A N E A L E A
E R B H T L A I R W M L B V S
B A A R E L S P R O S M A R H

WORDSEARCH 1

WORDSEARCH 2

Find 13 words in each grid.

ENGLISH FOOTBALLERS

H T C A R R I C K E
C G T M G W M H P L
U E Y O A C Q N Q L
O R E N C H O M K I
R R N Q I L K L S V
C A O B Y F A C E E
D R O R X I O W E N
L D R A P M A L F B
R E H G A R R A C A
T F E R D I N A N D

BRITISH PRIME MINISTERS

M R O J A M L L W R
N A B A L D W I N E
M A C M I L L A N H
B B H D W S E I A C
A L T G O X V T H T
L A I N A N T E K A
F I U Q C L A M V H
O R Q I E T L L Q T
U V S E H L W A D W
R D A B R O W N C C

ARROWWORD 1

- Place on a surface / Ecstatic
- Racket / Embellish with gems
- Pastry dish / Misplace
- Object
- Highest male voice
- Remove from records
- Award-winning singer of Hello
- Extinct bird
- Flower's stalk / Heavy metal
- Small gulp
- Greeted
- Be in arrears / Regard as perfect
- _ Mendes, British director
- Matured
- Household animal

ARROWWORD 2

- Cutting pattern / Fizzy drink
- Large truck / Chart
- Security phrase
- Tina _, Sisters actress
- Tarnish / Stifle
- Hearing organ
- Plant part
- Contradict
- _ Morrison, N Irish singer
- Swerved off course / Moan, pester
- Thick string
- Label / Attach, secure
- Sprinted
- Lazily

SOLUTIONS

PAGE ONE

ENTERTAINMENT CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1 Joanna; 4 Westwick; 10 Maurice; 11 Abbington; 12 Andrew; 16 Tiller; 18 Usher; 19 Mason; 22 Jon; 23 Emily; 24 Diane; 25 Len; 27 Royal; 29 Burke; 30 Youngs; 31 McEwan; 37 Lyndhurst; 38 Deneuve; 39 Ben Elton; 40 Davies. DOWN: 1 James Buckley; 2 Arun; 3 Neil; 5 Elbow; 6 Tina; 7 Cook; 8 Fern; 9 Harris; 13 Ali; 14 Sheen; 15 Craig; 17 Run the Jewels; 19 Mayer; 20 Nadal; 21 Gabby; 22 Jerry; 26 Una; 28 Yvette; 31 Mario; 32 Andy; 33 Kyle; 34 Phil; 35 Anna; 36 Suki.

CODEWORD

1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
C	S	J	R	X	B	E	F	W	O	G	Y	N

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
A	U	Q	L	I	V	T	D	P	Z	K	H	M

2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
M	W	P	X	J	C	S	L	K	Q	F	G	D

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
T	E	H	U	Z	R	N	O	B	V	I	A	Y

PAGES TWO AND THREE:

SAMURAI SUDOKU

EASY SUDOKU

FUTOSHIKI

NUMBERFIT

KAKURO

HARD SUDOKU

KILLER SUDOKU

ALPHADOKU

PAGES FOUR AND FIVE:

BIG CROSSWORD 1

ACROSS: 9 Cafeteria; 10 Brothers; 12 Trek; 13 Carton; 14 Charade; 15 Testimony; 17 Appertain; 18 Cohabit; 20 Rotate; 21 Plum; 24 Stubborn; 26 Vehement; 28 Odds; 29 Strewn; 31 Earshot; 34 Negligent; 36 Exuberant; 38 Curtail; 39 Morose; 40 Twee; 41 Reef knot; 42 Prototype. DOWN: 1 Ecstatic; 2 Afters; 3 Break-out; 4 Pantry; 5 Abundant; 6 Hotchpotch; 7 Theatre; 8 Armada; 11 Pen name; 16 Imbibe; 19 Hated; 20 Run; 22 Lunch; 23 Emerge; 25 On the blink; 26 Van; 27 Connect; 30 Estimate; 31 Emulsion; 32 Tattered; 33 Giraffe; 35 Garret; 36 Europe; 37 Always.

BIG CROSSWORD 2

ACROSS: 8 Sofa bed; 9 Faultless; 13 Being; 14 Rumba; 15 Venture; 16 Samurai; 17 Excel; 18 Maori; 20 Dingo; 22 Nickel; 23 Online; 25 Surmise; 27 Literal; 30 Shrink; 31 Shield; 32 Alias; 35 Filth; 36 Right; 37 Humdrum; 39 Triumph; 41 Balsa; 42 Uncle; 43 Redundant; 44 Severed. DOWN: 1 Podium; 2 Kangaroo; 3 Bear witness; 4 Vacancies; 5 A-levels; 6 Blancmange; 7 Esau; 10 Abused; 11 Impeach; 12 Revile; 19 Origami; 21 Neutral; 24 Windcheater; 26 Mint humbug; 28 Thighbone; 29 Reptile; 30 Safety; 32 Armoured; 33 Summer; 34 Orchids; 38 Riches; 40 Item.

JUMBO CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 13 Cleaned out; 14 Run-down; 15 Hailed; 16 Living; 17 Turns up; 18 Towed; 19 Mete; 20 Hedge; 21 Hated; 22 Resume; 23 Knock; 28 Frantic; 30 Stretch; 33 Unholy row; 36 Hold-up; 38 Shift; 39 Press; 40 Stride; 42 Stick; 43 Curtail; 44 Relief; 46 Sore; 49 Shad; 51 Erects; 53 Ransack; 55 Adage; 59 Blades; 60 Flame; 61 Snort; 62 Eleven; 63 Son of a gun; 65 Got over; 66 Present; 70 Staff; 71 Adjust; 73 Later; 75 Waist; 80 Omen; 82 Exact; 83 Plaster; 84 Putter; 85 Strove; 86 Laid off; 87 Sticking to. DOWN: 1 Plaice; 2 Taking in; 3 Merge; 4 Portray; 5 Starve; 6 Brush; 7 Sniper; 8 Contest; 9 In two minds; 10 Shade; 11 Pin money; 12 Heat; 24 Chowder; 25 Dippy; 26 Certain; 27 Goes off; 29 Roost; 31 Twist; 32 Cope; 34 Assume; 35 Mere; 37 Decided; 41 Residue; 45 Incite; 47 Persian; 48 Mansion; 50 Hold out; 52 Trap; 54 Stove; 56 Green; 57 Zero; 58 Weird; 60 Found fault; 64 Off and on; 67 Starting; 68 Curtail; 69 Refrain; 72 Tiptop; 74 Attest; 76 Sheath; 77 Fever; 78 Gaffe; 79 Spoke; 81 Mate.

TWO-SPEED

ACROSS: 7 Quiver; 8 Matter; 10 Ailment; 11 Tense; 12 Evil; 13 Arson; 17 Depot; 18 Rear; 22 Wound; 23 Rewards; 24 Around; 25 Intern. DOWN: 1 Squared; 2 Mislaid; 3 Seven; 4 Cartoon; 5 Atone; 6 Order; 9 Starboard; 14 Reading; 15 Decreed; 16 Present; 19 Swear; 20 Out of; 21 Owing.

NUMBERCRUNCH

Beginner - 121
Intermediate - 42
Advanced - 270

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

PAGES SIX AND SEVEN:

PATHFINDER

1 Hot Chocolate, Champagne, Cosmopolitan, Long Island Iced Tea, Cloudy Lemonade, Mineral Water, Bloody Mary, Peppermint Tea, Pina Colada, Irish Coffee, Cappuccino, White Wine, Spritzer, Ginger Beer, Elderflower Cordial, Caipirinha, Strawberry Milkshake, Sangria, Pineapple Juice.

2 Batman, Supergirl, Captain America, Iron Man, Scott Pilgrim, Wonder Woman, Thor, Wolverine, Barbarella, Spider-Man, The Hulk, Captain Marvel, Catwoman, Silver Surfer, The Fury, Storm, Superman, Invisible Woman, She-Hulk, Hellboy, Professor X, Green Arrow, Ms. Marvel, Black Widow, The Flash.

GIANT SUDOKU

MEDIUM SUDOKU

IMPOSSUDOKU

ARROWWORD

VERY HARD SUDOKU

CROSS OUT

WORDSEARCH